



Ha-Shilth-Sa
INTERESTING NEWS

Canada's Oldest First Nations Newspaper - Serving Nuu-chah-nulth-aht since 1974

Vol. 43 - No. 6—June 16, 2016

haas̓iṭsa

Canadian Publications Mail Product
Sales Agreement No. 40047776

Earthquake exercise critically important to Nuu-chah-nulth

By Shayne Morrow
Ha-Shilth-Sa Contributor

Port Alberni—At 7:45 a.m. Tuesday June 7, a Magnitude 9.0 earthquake struck off the West Coast of Vancouver Island. Twenty minutes later, a 20-metre tsunami surged up Alberni Inlet causing catastrophic damage all the way up to the City of Port Alberni. Don't feel bad if you missed the shaking and flooding. It was all part of a virtual disaster called Exercise Coastal Response, which unfolded across the city and beyond June 7 through June 9.



Hugh Braker

The practice run disaster involved an unprecedented mobilization of federal, provincial, municipal, regional and First Nations resources. While the "disaster" was virtual, the exercise itself was a real-time deployment of the people and agencies that would be tasked with saving lives and restoring services if and when the Big One strikes. Representatives from the various agencies met at a special reception on June 6 at Echo Centre, with seafood and hospitality provided by Tseshaht First Nation. They were welcomed by Alberni Clayoquot Regional District Chair and one-time Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council fisheries biologist Josie Osborne, who now serves as Mayor of Tofino. Welcoming out-of-towners to "the very cool Alberni Valley - 34.5 degrees Celsius yesterday," Tseshaht Councillor Hugh Braker said Exercise Coastal Response had the full support of Nuu-chah-nulth communities, and for good reason.

"Since the beginning, when it was initiated, Tseshaht has been a strong supporter of this exercise. All of our reserves are located along the sea. Of all the thousands of Nuu-chah-nulth people who live on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, in our 14 member Tribes, the vast majority of them live less than three metres above sea level. For us, this exercise is critically important."

Braker noted that currently, hundreds of Tseshaht and Hupacasath members are fishing on the Somass River in small boats. "If there were an emergency right now, we would face difficulties that others don't."

Even closer to the likely epicenter of the Big One, Tseshaht Beachkeepers work in partnership with Parks Canada in the Broken Island Group, overseeing the activities of 14,000 kayakers that visit the marine park each year.

"It was a very hard sell to tell our Beachkeepers that if a big earthquake hits, if there is a tsunami warning, you have less than 20 minutes to get more than 20 metres above sea level. You cannot worry about 14,000 tourists."

Braker said with so much at stake, Tseshaht has been watching the development of the exercise since the beginning.

"Our First Nation office will be setting up an emergency centre [on Thursday]. We ourselves are going to be an integral part of this exercise, because it is going to help us plan, because we know, some day there is going to be a giant earthquake and tsunami."

Braker said he has his own memories of the 1964 Good Friday Tsunami that devastated the low-lying regions of Port Alberni and caused long-term dislocation to many Nuu-chah-nulth people and communities in its path.

"I was 11 at the time, and I remember the day vividly, as if it were yesterday," he said. "So we know it's going to happen again. And we know when it happens, it's going to be you relying on me and me relying on you. It's going to be the Alberni Valley that has to be on its own for a long, long time."

See www.hashilthsa.com for more on the exercise.



Paddle Days at Ditidaht Community School. See our coverage on pages 14 and 15.



Northern Region School Potlatch in Zeballos. See our coverage on pages 12 and 13.



A special exchange from the West Coast General Hospital. See our coverage on page 10.

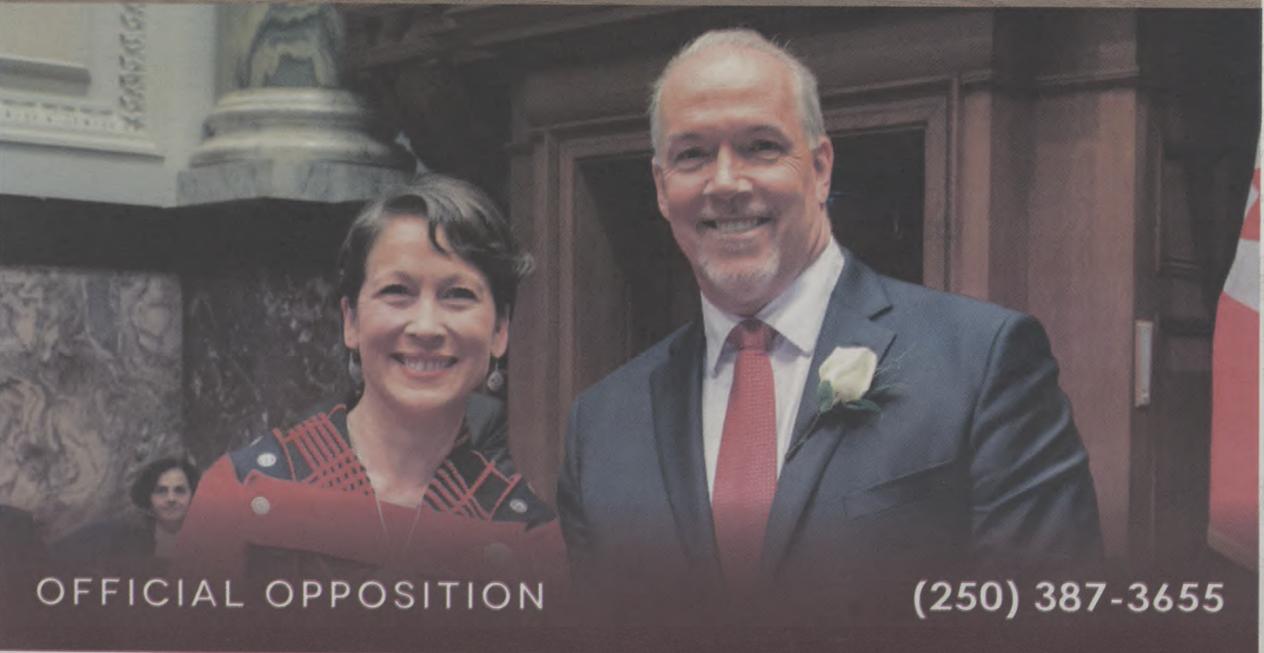
If undeliverable, please return to: Ha-Shilth-Sa
P.O. Box 1383, Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 7M2
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA NEWSPAPER COLLECTION
(17)
395 WELLINGTON ST
OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1A 0N4



Melanie Mark, John Horgan, and Jodie Wickens after the swearing in ceremony, Feb 17, 2016

John Horgan and the Official Opposition welcome MLA Melanie Mark, the first First Nations woman elected to the B.C. Legislature.

Happy National Aboriginal Day! celebrating aboriginal culture, traditions and rights



OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

(250) 387-3655

The nuučaañuł - Sami Connection

By ñaas?añuk (John Rampanen)

At the beginning of February 2016 my son Qwyatseek and I embarked on a journey of a lifetime. We departed from Vancouver on Feb. 4 on an eight day adventure into the territory of the Sami People. (Sapmi encompasses the region of Northern Norway, Sweden, and Finland).

Our mission, alongside wild salmon advocates Bonny Glambeck and Dan Lewis from Clayoquot Action, was to share our experiences and perspectives regarding preservation of wild salmon and impacts from fish farming with the people in the Alta, Norway area.

We also wished to engage with Sami people to develop a deeper understanding of their culture and language in the hopes that it would provide insight into our efforts towards language revitalization here at home.

This trip overseas was the first for both my son and I. After many hours of airtime and finding our way through foreign environments we finally landed in Alta, Norway on Feb. 6. We had prepared ourselves to share our culture and language as a demonstration of our interconnectedness with our territories. Our belief that our cultural practices and language are the key to the protection and preservation of our territories and way of life guided us to the Sami People.

Almost immediately upon our arrival in Alta, we fortunately crossed paths with a Sami Reindeer Herder Ásá Márget Anti. She generously invited us to her house for a traditional Sami meal and extended an invitation to join her on a reindeer herding expedition that only takes place once per year.

The next day my son and I travelled six-hours inland to take part in this cultural immersion. We found ourselves surrounded by many new experiences, people, foods, practices and language. It also happened to be National Sami Day, so there were many festivities and events taking place.

We arrived in Utsjoki, Northern Finland late in the evening and made our way up to the tundra plateau to participate in the reindeer herding. To say it was cold would be an understatement! The temperature was below -30 C. The clothing that we brought along to combat the cold weather was laughable, but we were fortunately taken care of by our Sami hosts.

Bundled up in warm clothing we made our way to the traditional Sami herding grounds. The cold air froze instantly with each breath.

The experience of corralling and herding well over a thousand reindeer was surreal and nearly indescribable.

We learned about the special ear mark-



John Rampanen and son Qwyatseek reindeer herding.



Qwyatseek and John Rampanen with Sami reindeer herder Ásá Márget Anti, and elder Tore Bongo.



Qwyatseek and John Rampanen with Sami political leader Beaska Niillas, and elder Tore Bongo.

ings that denote each respective Sami family. We learned about the birthing grounds of the reindeer (further to the north along the oceanside).

And, we learned of the cultural importance of the reindeer herd and how it is interconnected with the Sami People themselves. All this we learned while immersed in their culture and language.

To see the northern lights flicker upon the frozen horizon, to hear the language spoken throughout their land since the beginning of existence and to engage with their cultural practices was an experience that will remain with us for more than a lifetime.

My son, thirteen years old at the time, was honored and recognized for completing the rites of passage and entering into adulthood through Sami tradition. He was gifted with a reindeer knife and was told that he will always be welcome back to the Sami territory.

We travelled back to Alta afterwards with a newfound understanding of Sami tradition and culture. We could relate to the connections to the land and we discovered that the coastal Sami people are/were also connected to the ocean very similar to our people's practices.

However, the coastal Sami communities have been impacted by Norwegian settlement and influence much more significantly than the inland Reindeer

Herding families.

We also discovered that all Sami are connected to the Salmon. The number of wild salmon stocks have been severely jeopardized due to over harvesting, fish farming, hydro-electric dams, mining and other forms of resource extraction.

The interior Sami families/people that we connected with have taken on the mining industry directly as that was identified as the largest threat to Sami way of life. Fish Farming and dams also have many negative impacts but the current reality focuses upon one battle at a time.

In Alta, we had the pleasure of meeting more Sami People that have and continue to champion their cultural identity.

Tore Bongo, a highly-respected elder among the Sami community, played an instrumental role in the early 1980's to halt the development of a dam that would see the destruction of traditional Sami village sites within the Alta area.

Known as the Alta Controversy, this action was the largest mobilized event in Norwegian history and helped to re-ignite efforts in cultural pride and resurgence. We spent much time with Tore Bongo and I did my best to learn and speak to him in his language as a means to show respect and to gain a uniquely Sami perspective of issues in their region.

We also connected strongly with Beaska Niillas, a Sami political leader from this generation that embodies the cultural strength and power of his people, culture and land.

Beaska, Tore and Ásá joined us (along with several Norwegian activists/advocates) to voice our perspectives on the

status of wild salmon within our respective regions. We shared our position through voice and song at a Salmon Conference that was also attended by the King of Norway.

We share a common belief that our culture, languages and connections to our lands and waters is key to our ongoing survival as Indigenous people and that these values, beliefs and practices must be a part of the ongoing actions and decisions that impact our territories.

There are many, many more details that could be shared regarding this experience. We intend to return to Sami territory with our whole family to follow up with the connections made and cultural exchange. We are grateful to the generous support provided through the Wild Salmon Delegation and to the wonderful family and friends that sponsored Qwyatseek's involvement in this adventure.

Though it was disheartening in some ways to be cast with Indigenous tokenism by local non-Indigenous activists via social media, that effectively used our involvement to satisfy their own agenda, it was uplifting to be a part of this experience with Bonny and Dan and to explore meaningful ways to approach environmental issues through a cross-cultural lens.

The generous accommodations made by our Sami hosts to welcome my son and I into their way of life will never be forgotten.

Indigenous Peoples throughout this world are met with very similar challenges. It is our ability to connect, share and collectively strategize that holds the solution to these global issues.



Elementary Camp (\$160)
Ages 9-11 July 5-9

Jr. High Camp (\$160)
Ages 12-14 July 12-16

Young Women's Specialty Camp (\$170)
Ages 15-18 July 19-23

Young Men's Adventure Camp (\$170)
Ages 15-18 July 26-30

Register Now!

For camp registration or more information
778.421.4883 | 250.720.1798 | copperislandexperience@yahoo.com



Scotiabank™
Celebrating Together
National Aboriginal Day 2016

3777 10th Avenue, Port Alberni ♦ 250.720.4422
www.scotiabank.com

New chief councillor youngest and first female

By Shayne Morrow
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Tseshaht First Nation has elected its first-ever female, and youngest, elected chief councillor.

Cynthia Dick, who turned 27 May 24, was elected May 12 along with Corey Anderson, Hugh Braker, Melanie Fred, Jennifer Gallic, Luke George, John Gomez, Eunice Joe and Trevor Little. She is one of four new councillors. On May 19, at the first meeting of the new Tseshaht council, Dick was chosen from among the group to sit as elected chief, replacing Hugh Braker who served in that position the last term.

Ha-Shilth-Sa sat down with the newly-elected chief the day after the election. Dick, the daughter of Eileen Watts and Richard Dick Sr., said she is conscious of the fact that she has assumed an elected position that will at times put her on a national stage.

"I recognize the responsibilities that come with this role, and I have full confidence that I have the ability to do what needs to be done," she said. "And I know I have the support of our council and the rest of the community and the hereditary chiefs, and that we will all work together towards what we want as Tseshaht."

Dick said she spent part of her childhood in the care of family members and partly in foster care, "in the system." Despite those bumps in the road, Dick said she was able to stay connected with her Nuu-chah-nulth culture as she attended first Haahuupayak school, then A.W. Neill, and graduated from Alberni District Secondary School in 2007.

Dick started her post-secondary at North



A historic election for Tseshaht, with the election of Cynthia Dick, first female chief and youngest ever chief.

Island College, then transferred to Vancouver Island University in 2008, where she completed her Bachelor of Arts in 2014, with a Major in Sociology and a Minor in Psychology.

"I started as a summer student at [the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council] in 2007, and I worked in a number of departments," she said.

Those included Non-Insured Health Benefits and Social Development and Health Promotion, but her most compelling role was in Education.

"I started as the Post-Secondary Counsellor, but then I went back to Tseshaht as Office Manager (October 2014). Then, last June, I went back (to NTC) as the Pathways to Student Success Supervisor."

Dick said her decision to run for council

flowed from her term as Tseshaht office manager.

"I started attending the meetings and recording the meetings. I became very passionate about everything that happens with Tseshaht, and I decided I wanted to get more people involved."

When Dick returned to NTC, she continued to participate in community meetings and educated herself on the local, provincial and national issues Tseshaht is involved in on a daily basis.

"I am up to date – not completely, of course, but I am definitely aware. And I will continue to educate myself," she said.

For her election campaign, Dick used social media as a matter of course.

"But I was really excited about running and about being accepted as a candidate, so I went above and beyond, and ordered a bunch of lawn signs."

Motorists on Ekooth Road and Old Logging Road could not miss the huge campaign signs created by family members. Then there were those people wearing

"Cynthia for Council" shirts.

Balloting took place from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on May 12, after which Tseshaht members were invited to watch the ballot count.

"It felt great to know I had my community behind me in this decision," Dick said.

Dick declined to comment on the nomination process that saw her elected as chief councillor in an internal ballot. In part, she admitted, she was unsure of the media protocol surrounding the proceedings. But she will say she avoided "politicizing" with the other newly-elected councillors to win their favor.

"My approach was to stay away from that. I wanted to make a fresh start when the nine of us were elected, recognizing that we would all work together from that point.

"The first priority for me is to build those relationships and work with the community to get where we want to go."

Dick said her experience in NTC Education reinforced her belief in the importance of acknowledging and promoting the value of Nuu-chah-nulth culture, both to students and to the general population as a whole.

"This all goes back to hishukish ts'awalk – we are all one and interconnected. That is the great thing about Nuu-chah-nulth culture – we are all so welcoming and, for the most part, everyone can be part of it," she said.

That understanding of culture has led Dick to recognize the value of gaining fluency in other cultures. This fall, her four-year-old daughter will begin kindergarten at Alberni Elementary, with the goal of attending the French Immersion program. For a young multilingual and culturally-literate person, the horizons are almost endless.

"I do my best to make sure she has that strong attachment to our culture, and I will definitely encourage both along the way," she said.

4683 Margaret Street
Port Alberni BC.
V9Y 6H1
(250) 723-5239

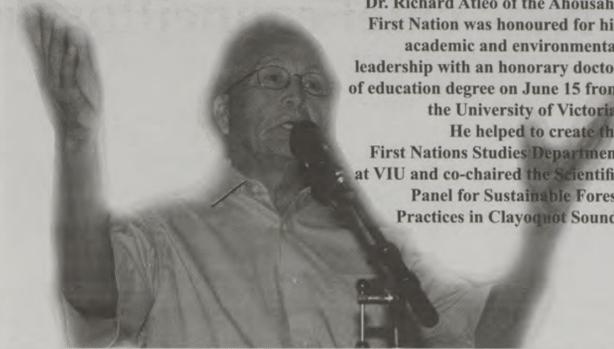


We Engrave Glass, Wood, Leather, Metal and Granite
www.EngravingByLadybird.com
Ladybird Engraving & Web Creations Ltd.

Ladybird

Awards & Trophies
Custom Decorated Apparel
Promotional Products
Custom Designed Websites
Direct to Garment TShirts
Sublimation
Complete Sign Shop

Dr. Richard Atleo of the Ahousaht First Nation was honoured for his academic and environmental leadership with an honorary doctor of education degree on June 15 from the University of Victoria. He helped to create the First Nations Studies Department at VIU and co-chaired the Scientific Panel for Sustainable Forest Practices in Clayoquot Sound.



Happy Aboriginal Day Celebrating with you!



- National Aboriginal Day -

On this day, let's celebrate & share knowledge about the Aboriginal peoples' vibrant culture, amazing traditions, & unique heritage!



Unemployed?
Looking for work?
We can help!

PH 250.723.4675 FX 250.723.4655
www.INEOemployment.com

Job Posting Recreation Worker Ditidaht First Nation

Position: Full-Time
Application Deadline: July 8, 2016
Location: Nitinaht, Malachan I.R.#11

Job Summary:

The Youth Worker will support the youth either individually or in a family group. The primary responsibility is to handle social, emotional and/or financial problems as well as provide skilled intervention and treatment services. The Youth Worker will provide counselling and integrated case management planning, support youth in developing a healthy lifestyle and appropriate behaviour and to empower individuals to take action on issues affecting their lives including health, education, unemployment and environment.

A brief summary of duties and responsibilities include developing and implementing programs for youth, families and children, coordinating community and cultural events and seeking available funding opportunities.

Qualifications:

- Relevant education and or experience (BA, BSW, or CYC degree with 2 years experience)
- Have proven experience and training in working with the youth
- General knowledge of youth and children programs; coordinating community and cultural events
- Energetic and high motivator
- Ability to efficiently operate computer programs and software
- A self starter and ability to work on own initiative yet able to demonstrate teamwork
- Flexible, adaptable, punctual and consistent
- Demonstrates effective communication
- First Aid

Must have a Valid B.C Drivers Licence, preference to Class 4 or better and in support of a recent criminal record check

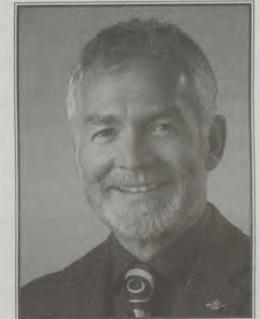
Send RESUMES to the Ditidaht First Nation Administration Office
Attn: CSM Job Posting
P.O Box 340, Port Alberni B.C. V9Y 7M8
Fax: 250-745-3332
Email – mary-ann@ditidaht.ca

Only those shortlisted will be contacted.

Happy National Aboriginal Day



Claire Trevena,
MLA North Island
claire.trevena.mla@leg.bc.ca



Scott Fraser,
MLA Alberni-Pacific Rim
scott.fraser.mla@leg.bc.ca

Celebrate the cultures and diversity of our First Nations peoples.
Hishcuk Ish Tsawalk



Why Choose a Career in Forestry?

Because I love working
with my office assistant



Forestry is not your typical 9-5 desk job.
Forestry is about managing forests for future generations.
Forestry is dynamic, challenging and exciting!

Visit www.abcfp.ca/students
for more information
or find us on Facebook.



Wishing
everyone
a happy
National
Aboriginal
Day



The Board of Education
Vancouver Island West
School District 84

www.hashilthsa.com



Grand Chief Ed John of the First Nations Summit with Vice President Ken Watts and President Debra Foxcroft of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council.

NTC executive thank Grand Chief Ed John for hard work over decades

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council executive, President Debra Foxcroft and Vice President Ken Watts, presented First Nations Summit Task Force member Ed John with a traditional rattle in recognition of his hard work on behalf of Indigenous people over the years.

Watts took the opportunity to publicly apologize to John for questioning the need for the travel he did over the years to take part in dialogue and negotiations at the United Nations, saying that

the work resulted in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which is now an integral part of the Canadian/Indigenous relationship moving forward.

Watts felt the rattle was appropriate, because it belonged to his late father George, who once occupied the same position as Ed John at the UN permanent forum on Indigenous issues, North American representative.

John accepted that apology.

Job Posting Social Development/Family Care Worker Ditidaht First Nation

Permanent Position: Full Time
Posting closes: July 8, 2016
Salary: Based on Qualification
Hours: This position may be required to work non-standard hours and weekends.

The onus is upon the successful applicant to seek housing or accommodations if necessary.

Job Summary

The Social Development/Family Care Worker in conjunction with the Community Services (CS) Department team. Reports directly to the Community Services Manager and is responsible for managing social assistance, clients, and case load, making referrals, financial reporting and developing and implementation of prevention/intervention strategies to support families at risk. This position will liaise with USMA workers and monitor services provided to Ditidaht Children and families identified.

Recent Criminal record check, proven ability to work in a team setting

Responsibilities

NOTE: The Responsibilities have been summarised for the purpose of this posting. Should you be interested in the full descriptions you are more than welcome to contact the Administrator to see the description.

Social Development:

- Responsible for intake and assessment of social assistance applications from applicants, together with supplementary documentation as outlined in the AANDC Income Assistance Policy- effective July 1, 2013.
- Assess each application and the applicant's circumstances to establish their needs, and identify available resources and possible alternative means of support;
- Complete Budget and Decision Sheets to verify/determine eligibility for social assistance, on the basis of identified needs and resources;
- Issue financial assistance at rates set out in the AANDC Income Assistance Policy and Procedure manual or food vouchers to recipients (clients) who meet eligibility requirements;
- Verify ongoing eligibility by contacting appropriate sources to confirm information given on the monthly renewal slips;
- Assist clients in crisis by making appropriate referrals (i.e., NTC programs and services, mental health counseling, Alcohol & Drug counseling, family protection, and other outside services.)

Family Care:

- Provide one-on-one counselling and group facilitations;
- Facilitate and implement prevention programs and events;
- Identify families at risk and bring forward to CS team for intervention plan. Team will collectively monitor and report to child welfare authorities such as USMA;
- Provide life skills counselling / program referral and provides job readiness and work experience counselling / program referral for children / families involved with child/family services with routine follow up;
- Prepare client for court proceedings, prepare and present evidence for family court and attend court as directed with the goal of getting the family back together;

Send RESUMES to the Ditidaht First Nation Administration Office

Attn: SD/FC Job Posting
P.O. Box 340, Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 7M8
Or fax to: 250-745-3332
Or email to: mary-ann@ditidaht.ca

Only those shortlisted will be contacted.

Job Posting Community Services Manager Ditidaht First Nation

Permanent Position: Full Time
Posting closes: July 8, 2016
Salary: Based on Qualifications
Hours: This position may be required to work non-standard hours and weekends

This position is full time based at the Community Services Building in Nitinaht Lake B.C. The onus is upon the successful applicant to seek housing or accommodations if necessary.

Qualifications

- Strong management and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrates assertiveness with tact and maturity
- Effective oral and written Communication Skills
- Proven ability to work in a team setting
- Flexible, adaptable, punctual and consistent
- Available in the community evenings and weekends
- Computer literate; knowledge of windows based programs and software
- Ability to handle conflict using sound judgement
- Must be able to maintain confidentiality
- Genuine interest in health, community development and services an asset
- Eager to build capacity toward responsible, accountable government an asset
- Budget and financial management experience an asset
- Recent criminal record check

General overview of Role and Responsibilities:

The Community Services Manager (CSM) is a staff member of the Ditidaht Government and head of the Community Services Department. The CSM reports directly to the Administrator and is responsible for the systematic, effective and efficient implementation of Community Services programs and policies.

The CSM receives administrative direction from the Administrator and is responsible for the day to day management of the Community Services Department. The CSM directly supervises all employees within the Community Services Department and is responsible for the annual evaluations.

The Community Services Department includes Child & Family, Youth, Elders, Health, Social Development, Financial Assistance and cultural initiatives; Adult Education, Post Secondary, Home-School liaison, Tutoring, Education Skills and Training and other responsibilities as required. The CSM provides support to Ditidaht Band Council at the direction of the Administrator.

The CSM may, at the specific request and on behalf of the Administrator, undertake special or extraordinary Staff responsibilities.

Send RESUMES to the Ditidaht First Nation Administration Office
Attn: CSM Job Posting
P.O. Box 340, Port Alberni B.C. V9Y 7M8
Fax: 250-745-3332
Email – mary-ann@ditidaht.ca

Only those shortlisted will be contacted.

hashilthsa.com



A refurbished totem pole carved and gifted to the Cowichan people by renowned artist late Art Thompson of Ditidaht was rededicated May 31.

Art Thompson pole re-dedicated

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

A significant totem pole given to Cowichan Tribes decades ago has been restored in an effort to preserve its beauty and extend its longevity. Carved by late Arthur Thompson of Ditidaht, a renowned artist who was instrumental in the fight for justice for residential school survivors, the pole has special significance because Thompson has roots in Cowichan.

The totem pole, which stands in front of the Cowichan Tribes Administration building, was carved in 1996 by Thompson, who was proud of his Cowichan heritage. Thompson's mother Ida came from the Modeste family of Cowichan Tribes.

According to Cowichan elder Violet George, the pole was starting to show its age and Cowichan member Doug August was contracted to restore the pole.

On May 31, Cowichan Tribes spent the day celebrating the 50th anniversary of their tribal administration. According to Cowichan Tribes, their first administration office was a small A-frame building opened in 1966 with two employees and a band manager.

Today, there are far more offices with a large staff serving about 4,600 Cowichan members.

The 2015 Cowichan Princess, Shiloh Louie, age 9, took the microphone and welcomed the people to the 50th anniversary celebration. She said Cowichan Tribes Chief & Council support Cowichan culture, which, she said, is the backbone of their community.

"It is important to keep it (culture) alive so we can pass it on to the next generation," said Louie.

Invited guests were seated in front of the totem pole on the morning of the celebration. The refurbished pole had already been raised but had blankets covering the sacred SXweXwe mask at the top of the pole.

Dozens of guests were thanked, according to Cowichan tradition, for bearing witness to the unveiling of the totem pole.

Elected Chief William Seymour, his council and other Cowichan members shook hands with special guests, thanking them for showing up for this special day.

The hosts asked that all recording devices be put away as they called upon sacred mask dancers to bless the pole as female singers drummed.

Nuu-chah-nulth people were there to celebrate the restoration of the pole. Speaker Ron Hamilton pointed out that

usually, once a pole is in place, it is left to Mother Nature, who will eventually reclaim the pole after it rots and falls back to the earth.

He thanked the leaders of Cowichan Tribes for preserving the pole. "It was important to my late cousin (Arthur Thompson) to leave something where his late mom came from; he was proud to be half Cowichan," said Hamilton.

Derek Thompson stood by the pole in place of his father, Boquilla (Charlie Thompson), who was Arthur Thompson's brother.

"My late Uncle Art was the youngest brother in the family and he was a residential school survivor," said Derek Thompson.

He went on to tell how Art was at the forefront of the move to give residential school survivors a voice. He was determined not to be silent.

"He had a presence, a voice and he told us to never forget who we are," said Thompson, adding that his late uncle Art always talked about the importance of self-determination.

And so, as it was important for Art Thompson, it is also important for his loved ones that his work is kept alive.

"It is an honor and privilege to be here on behalf of my family; I am proud of my uncle and his continuing legacy," said Derek Thompson.

The pole was blessed again according to Nuu-chah-nulth tradition. Hamilton thanked the hosts and praised their young princess, Shiloh Louie, saying she was raised well as shown by her strong public speaking skills.

He went on to explain the different elements of the pole, saying his late cousin topped his pole with a sacred Cowichan mask that reflected the maternal side of Thompson's family.

According to Boquilla, the figure is called a SXweXwe, and some Salish families have rights to use the SXweXwe mask ceremony. He likened its level of sacredness to that of the Hiinkits'im.

The Modeste Family has rights to the SXweXwe and so it is prominently displayed on the pole holding a salmon, which is plentiful in the Cowichan River.

Hamilton said Art Thompson knew the importance of the winter dances for the Cowichan people. The winter dances end when the frogs start singing and this is why he carved a frog at the bottom of the pole.

Hamilton thanked the people of Cowichan again, saying they have so much to be proud of. He asked them to allow the pole to stand as a mark of their successes.

Be part of an exciting and rewarding profession.

Qualify as a Human Resources Professional

ashtoncollege.ca/HR

Full-time | Part-time | Online

For more information, contact a program adviser at 604.628.5784 or 1.844.628.5784 or apply online.



Wildland Fire Suppression S100 & S185

June 27 & 28, 2016
Port Alberni—Southern Region



Delivered by our Training Partners at:



Upon successful completion of S100, students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of wildfire suppression, wildfire behavior plus safety procedures.

Upon completion of the S-185 course, the participant will be able to size up and evaluate potential fire entrapment situations and how to act accordingly to remove himself or herself safely from a potentially risky situation, deploy the necessary resources using safe and efficient strategies and tactics to prevent loss of life.

Date: Monday June 27 & Tuesday June 28, 2016

Location: 4090 8th Ave NETP, Port Alberni

Lunch provided.

If interested, please express interest with your Case Manager at NETP or Contact Shan Ross—Intake Coordinator.

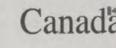
** Prerequisites— Must be 16 years or older **

Visit in Person: 4090 8th Avenue, Port Alberni

Phone: (250)723-1331 Email: NETP@nuuchahnulth.org



Nuu-chah-nulth Employment & Training program is a department of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council



Funding provided in part by the Government of Canada

THANK YOU for your support!

In January 2016 the West Coast Transportation Working Group worked with the Wheels for Wellness Society to conduct a pilot project for medical transportation services in the region. The pilot was a success with program ridership doubling in the first two months. In order to sustain this program the working group came together to leverage \$34 000 for the capital purchase of the Wheels for Wellness van for the region. Thanks to our dedicated working group and donors we were successful in fundraising this amount in under 2 months, this valuable medical transportation service will remain operational in our community!

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

- District of Tofino
- District of Ucluelet
- ACRD - Area C
- Ucluelet First Nation
- Creative Salmon
- Cermaq
- Poppy Fund
- Coastal Family Resource Coalition
- Pacific Rim Hospice
- Remote Passages
- Clayoquot Biosphere Trust
- Peoples Drug Mart
- Alberni Clayoquot Health Network

If you would like more information about the Wheels for Wellness program and volunteer opportunities, see their website www.wheelsforwellness.com or contact the office at 250-338-0196.

Another big thank you to our dedicated working group of local leaders, staff and community organizations convened by the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network.

Ha-Shilth-Sa newspaper is published by the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council for distribution to the members of the NTC-member First Nations, as well as other interested groups and individuals. Information and original work contained in this newspaper is protected by copyright and may not be reproduced without written permission from:

Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council
P.O. Box 1383,
Port Alberni, B.C.
V9Y 7M2.
Telephone: (250) 724-5757
Fax: (250) 723-0463
Web page: www.hashilthsa.com
facebook: Hashilthsa Ntc

2016 Subscription rates:
\$35.00 per year in Canada and \$40 per year in the U.S.A. and \$45 per year in foreign countries. Payable to the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council.

Manager/Editor/Reporter
Debora Steel (Ext. 243)
(250) 724-5757
Fax: (250) 723-0463
debora.steel@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

July 8, 2016

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.



AW Neill Elementary celebrates Aboriginal Awareness Week

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Port Alberni—Students of Port Alberni's AW Neill Elementary School spent the week of May 17 to May 20 learning about Nuu-chah-nulth culture through hands-on activities, including projects that they've been working on throughout the year.

Prior to Aboriginal Awareness Week the students, under the guidance of their teachers and guests, took part in lessons and projects focused on aboriginal culture. These projects were on display in the school hallways.

During Aboriginal Awareness Week guest presenters were brought in, coordinated by Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker Richard Samuel. In half-hour segments, they guided the children through Nuu-chah-nulth language lessons, art, singing, bannock-making and they learned how to play lahal.

Tim Sutherland sang Nuu-chah-nulth songs for the children after fielding questions from them about how to make a deer hide hand-held drum. Nitanis Desjarlais shared edible plant knowledge with the students.

Elder Katie Fraser and Eva Prevost taught the children how to say Nuu-chah-nulth words through interactive games and exercises. In another room Faith Watts and Angeline Charleson taught cedar weaving techniques.

The school home economics classroom smelled heavenly as Faith Watts demonstrated bannock making.

The children loved to play the Nuu-chah-nulth guessing game of lahal under the guidance of Stan Lucas.

Outside they learned how to play lacrosse with Stephanie Hopkins and stealing sticks with Diane Gallic.

On the final day of Aboriginal Awareness Week everyone was treated to a traditional salmon barbeque with fish caught from the Somass River that morning and roasted on cedar sticks over a fire by Mory Sutherland and his wife Jan Green.

The week of culture wrapped up with a school assembly featuring the unveiling of a new cedar box and the school logo.



Richard Samuel leads a song at the AW Neill Aboriginal Awareness Week in May.

Principal Darrin Olson, following Nuu-chah-nulth protocol, first acknowledged and thanked Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations for allowing the school in their territories.

The cedar box was built by Jim Lawson; the art work was created by artist Josh Shaw. Shaw said that he was asked to depict creatures seen in and around Port Alberni. With that in mind, his design featured plenty of trees, eagles, and a female salmon full of eggs, bears, wolves and hummingbirds. On one side was an image of a woman, who represents Mother Earth. On another side was a man, Shaw said, to maintain balance and because men and women need one another.

The box will be used to store drums and regalia and will be put on display during important school events.

Following the recent reconfiguration of the SD70 school system that saw the transformation of AW Neill Junior High school to an elementary school, the staff saw the need for a new school logo.

Principal Olson and teacher Mrs. Anker collaborated on a school logo design, and

when they were finished, local artist Ray Sim was contracted to bring the image to life through paint.

The design features a wolf framed by green mountains cradling the sun. Sim said the wolf was chosen for the design because they are not only strong pack animals, but also strong individually – a message they hope to impart to the students.

The logo was unveiled to a huge round of applause. SD 70 trustee Jane Jones was in the audience along with Kelly Johnson of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council.

Principal Olson said the school sends a huge thank you to Mr. Samuel, NTC Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker for all his efforts in making the AW Neill Aboriginal Awareness Week the great success that it was. Funding for the cedar box came from the BCTF Ed May Social Responsibility Fund, AW Neill Elementary School and SD70.

Aboriginal Awareness Week at AW Neill Elementary School was made possible through funds from AW Neill School, the Parent Advisory Council and SD70.

Legal Information

The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for space actually occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error is due to the negligence of the servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisements



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 42nd year of serving the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations. We look forward to your continued input and support. Kleco! Kleco!



Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council President Deb Foxcroft (second from right) and Usma Director Kyra Mason (far left) present at the BC First Nations Child and Family Gathering held in Vancouver May 30 and May 31.

Nuu-chah-nulth leaders demand commitment

Press Statement

May 30 and May 31 in Vancouver, more than 400 First Nations leaders, front line workers and representatives from

Aboriginal children and family organizations gathered to meet with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) at the BC First Nations Child and Family Gathering.

Meetings held this week have shown little progress and the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council (NTC) is frustrated with the lack of committed action from the Ministry and the province of BC.

"We will call upon our partners and allies to ensure that British Columbians are aware of the province's continued inaction for the benefit of First Nations children. A premier who ran on a Families First platform has not put our children first, but last on the provinces' priorities," said Deb Foxcroft, NTC President.

"We call upon Minister Stephanie Cadieux to meet with the First Nations Leadership Council as soon as possible and develop a joint action plan. It appears that MCFD is only interested in investing internally in their Ministry by way of the Pleacas Report and through the Ministry's newly established advisory council, while ignoring almost all previous reports done by Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond [Representative for Children and Youth]."

On the heels of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's calls to action, Canada's \$8 billion budget committed to First Nations services and Canada's full support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), there is no excuse for the lack of tangible action seen from the province and MCFD.

On May 30 at the BC First Nations Child and Family Gathering, Deb Foxcroft, said Nuu-chah-nulth representatives did not want to simply talk. "We do not want to waste our time, and more im-

portantly our children's time. Our chiefs didn't travel from the West Coast of Vancouver Island to simply talk without action."

She called upon the province of BC to commit to the following:

Develop a BC First Nations Child and Family Action Plan and Strategy (in partnership with First Nations) to address the overrepresentation of the number of Indigenous children in care and work to prevent our children from going into care in the first place (with resources for implementation). The plan would include, but not be limited to items such as

a. **Increased funding** for First Nations in terms of child and family services.

b. **A policy and legislation review** in partnership with First Nations with recommendations for amendments for action.

c. **Develop an implementation working group** in partnership with First Nations to create an action plan for the implementation of **ALL The TRC Calls to Action in terms of Child Welfare.**

d. **Commitment to fund Aboriginal Family Court Workers across BC OR family court training** for First Nations people across BC.

e. **Work with First Nations Leadership Council on all future appointments of the Assistant Deputy Minister position in MCFD** who is responsible for the Aboriginal Child and Family Services.

f. **Develop an "aging out" strategy** (in partnership with First Nations) for First Nations children in care so that they are provided with the proper supports, programs and services before they age out.

g. **Develop a joint action plan on implementing Jordan's Principle in the Province of BC.**

h. **Create a working group, in partnership with First Nations, to begin jurisdiction preliminary discussions with BC, Canada and BC First Nations.**

Trace the journey of fish from ocean to plate

Press Statement

This year, consumers will have the exclusive opportunity to purchase Ha'oom Wild Seafood's *Puu?i* or halibut – available for the first time since inception of the business in 2012. As part of its commitment to excellence, Ha'oom Wild Seafood will also be implementing the ThisFish traceability program to tag all Ha'oom halibut destined for the marketplace.

Consumers will now have the opportunity to learn the origin of Ha'oom halibut and its' journey from ocean to plate through the ThisFish website, using a unique and trackable identification number.

"Partnerships with First Nations are a great step to reconciliation. By following the Nuu-chah-nulth values of *iisaak* (respect) and *hiish-uk-ish-tawalk* (everything is interconnected), Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations are able to utilize modern technology, while looking after future generations," expressed Ken Watts, NTC Vice-President.

"Having consumers be able to trace their halibut back to the T'aaq-wiihak fishery not only distinguishes Ha'oom seafood products as unique in the marketplace, but raises awareness of T'aaq-wiihak and the Nuu-chah-nulth fisheries rights case as a whole," commented Alex Gagne, T'aaq-wiihak Fisheries Coordinator.

About Ha'oom Wild Seafood
Ha'oom is the T'aaq-wiihak Nations' seafood brand. Generations of Nuu-chah-nulth fishers have lived, fished, and

traded seafood from the cool and clean waters of BC's Pacific Coast. Today our fishers are sharing their skills and bounty with a larger market through the T'aaq-wiihak fisheries. T'aaq-wiihak Ha'wiih have given permission for all Ha'oom Wild Seafood products to be carefully harvested from their territories. For more information, visit www.haoom.ca.

About T'aaq-wiihak
Five Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations located on West coast Vancouver Island (Ahousaht, Ehattesaht, Hesquiaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, and Tla-o-qui-aht) have taken the federal government to court to prove their "aboriginal rights to fish for any species of fish within their Fishing Territories and to sell that fish, with the exception of geoduck" (DFO, 2016). Collectively the five plaintiff Nations took on the name of the "T'aaq-wiihak Nations," which means fishing with permission of the *Ha'wiih* (hereditary leadership).

About ThisFish
Launched by Ecotrust Canada in 2010, ThisFish is a seafood traceability system that enables consumers to discover the story of their seafood by tracing its journey from the ocean to their plate using smartphones, tablets and computers. Consumers can discover who caught their seafood, when, where and how, and even send a message to their fish harvester. Seafood is identified with uniquely coded tags and labels that can be used to trace a product's journey online at ThisFish.info. For more information, visit www.thisfish.info.



The ThisFish tag will be attached to halibut going into the commercial marketplace that has been harvested by Ha'oom Wild Seafood, a company developed by the T'aaq-wiihak Nations.

Tseshaht rejects four-year agreement with DFO

By Shayne Morrow
Ha-Shilth-Sa Contributor

Tseshaht First Nation has rejected a four-year Tsu-ma-as Fishery Agreement as proposed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), but it will not disrupt the 2016 sockeye fishing season.

On May 26, Tseshaht announced that it would not sign the agreement "until fair representation and consideration is given to the Nation."

On May 31, Tseshaht Fisheries Manager Andy Olsen said the fishery would go ahead under the terms of previous one-

year agreement with the understanding that we would negotiate a four-year agreement," noting that neither side was looking for a prolonged dispute. "Things are progressing quickly. We signed an agreement this morning."

Had no agreement been put in place, fishers would have been prohibited from selling their catch to commercial buyers. The sockeye harvest is already underway and the initial Somass River run estimate is for a healthy one million fish.

"We have formed a committee to negotiate an agreement," Chief Councillor Cynthia Dick said.

councillor Hugh Braker, Olsen and community representative Martin Watts.

For Dick, who was sworn in on May 19, it has been a reminder of the magnitude of her elected role.

"This is one of the most important agreements we do sign as a nation, and we want to have adequate consultation and input on the language and terms," Dick said.

Hupacasath Fisheries Manager Graham Murrell said his Nation had been prepared to sign the original DFO agreement conditionally.

"We were prepared to go ahead with the

ments to be added through the season," Murrell said.

"DFO has agreed to consult during the season to address these issues."

Murrell said both Nations very much want to forge a longer-term agreement in order to provide certainty for their fishers. "When our fishers look to get financing for their boats and equipment, it looks better when [the banks] know they have a long-term agreement to sell their fish commercially," Murrell said.

"We just wanted to get our fishers out on the water and they want to be able to sell their fish."

Hospital returns painting to daughter of late artist

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Port Alberni —Directors of West Coast General Hospital received an unusual request for the return of an oil painting gifted to the hospital during the 1970's. The request came from a young Ditidaht woman, who said she was the daughter of artist Thomas Joseph Jr. and she had nothing to remember him by.

Dorothy Burn was a very young child when her father died in an accident in 1981. The Thunderbird oil painting he made for the old West Coast General Hospital was painted before her 1977 birth, coincidentally, at West Coast General Hospital.

According to an old newspaper clipping supplied by Burn, Thomas Joseph Jr. was becoming a well-known artist with his paintings going as far as Denmark and Sydney, Australia. He preferred painting eagles and thunderbirds and was quoted as saying, "I think I will be an eagle when I'm reincarnated."

If anyone remembers the old West Coast General Hospital that stood off of Redford Street between 8th and 9th Avenues, the painting was one of the first things visitors saw as they entered the hospital foyer. It was placed on a wall facing the main entrance.

Burns wrote a heartfelt letter expressing how much she wanted this work by her father. Directors at the hospital and Alberni/Clayoquot Regional Directors agreed that the painting should go back to family, on the condition that a donation was made to the hospital foundation.

Burn arrived at the hospital with a large delegation from Ditidaht on May 30. She was there to retrieve her painting and hospital directors were there to greet her. The people from Ditidaht, including all the children from the community school, danced into the hospital foyer, leading the way for Burn, and her family members.

This is so meaningful to me that I needed to make a ceremony, said Burn.

It was an emotional day for Burn and she cried when caught a glimpse of the painting. With her husband and mother holding her hand, she approached the hospital directors and told them how special this painting was to her.

"I have a large wall in my house that



is blank; I've never put anything there," she shared, adding she wasn't sure why. "Much like my life, which had a blank space without my father, the blank space on my wall is reserved for something very special."

"Thank you for allowing me to have this, I will forever be grateful," she added.

Burn handed over \$20 and, with tears in her eyes, accepted the painting, to the cheers and applause of her people.

Burn presented carved paddles to Pam Reardon, Site Director, Alison Sundstrum, Assistant to Reardon, and Marie Duperreault, Alberni/Clayoquot Regional Director. Each also received hugs or handshakes from everyone from Ditidaht.



NETP invites people to drop by, check out services

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Port Alberni — Staff of NETP (the Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program) opened the doors of their Port Alberni offices June 13 to invite people for a tour of their facility and to see what they have to offer.

Operating since 2010, NETP offers training and employment readiness services to all Aboriginal, Metis and Inuit people residing in Nuu-chah-nulth territories. Besides the main office in Port Alberni, there are regional offices in Gold River and Ucluelet to serve people living in coastal communities.

Funded by ASETS (Aboriginal Skills & Employment Training Strategy), NETP works with clients on an individual basis as well as in group setting. They offer a variety of training classes and programs including drivers training, FoodSafe, adult upgrading, as well as cultural and life skills training to prepare people to enter the workforce.

NETP offers a wide array of programs

the work force, assist in job search and to support people in maintaining their jobs.

Ginny Webster stopped by the open house with her daughter. She said she earned her FoodSafe ticket through NETP and drops by for weekly visits.

Most of the NETP staff were at the open house and they introduced themselves during lunch hour. NTC President Debra Foxcroft said she was honored to be there, adding she's been hearing good news and inspirational stories of successes coming from NETP.

Following the cutting of the cake, people were invited to talk to NETP staff to learn more about services. They were offered refreshments and the chance to win gift baskets.

NETP Case Manager Robyn Samuel invited people to drop by anytime during work hours if they want to know more in Port



Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council President Debra Foxcroft cuts the cake at the Nuu-chah-

cermaq

Serious about Sustainability

cermaq.ca



Zeballos School hosts annual regional potlatch

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Zeballos—Students and staff of Zeballos Elementary Secondary School greeted hundreds of guests that honoured their invitation to take part in their school potlatch.

School buses began arriving in Zeballos on the morning of May 26. Guests came from Port Alberni, Gold River, Kyuquot, Coal Harbour and Port Hardy. The schools they represented were Haahuu-payuk, Ray Watkins Elementary School, Gold River Secondary School, Quatsino K'ak'ot'ats'I School, and Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw School.

See our photo gallery
The school potlatch is a regional event held every year by a school in Zeballos, Gold River or Kyuquot on Vancouver Island. The teachers, students and parents begin preparing for the potlatch usually before Christmas and that was true this year, said ZESS principal Wayne Alsop, with students working on potlatch gifts around Christmas time.

Drawing from resources in the community, Alsop said artist Vince Smith helped by making designs for the students to paint. Parents and other interested community members met weekly to help with the making of gifts.

"Florence John is our school elder and she is the head of the potlatch committee," Alsop said. Margret Miller took charge of making regalia and gifts while Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker (NEW), Celina Charleson, helped with art.

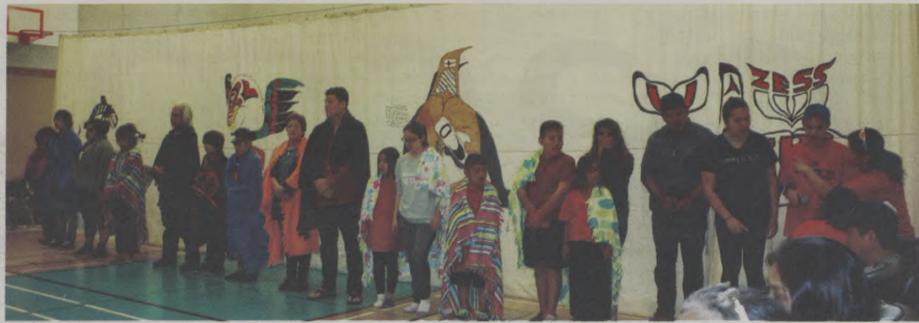
Sheila John and Stacey Miller are also NEWs who took part in planning and organizing the potlatch.

Principal Alsop said the preparations for the school potlatch and the potlatch itself count toward the students' culture and language credits.

Ehatesaht First Nation contributed to the potlatch by providing funding for resource people and several Ehatesaht volunteered their time during weekly meetings to make gifts or to practise culture.

Everyone gathered at the school playground for a soup and sandwich lunch. Students from Haahuu-Payuk School showed their gratitude by singing a dinner song and a prayer was said before people ate lunch.

Continued on page 13



Next year Kyuquot to host regional school potlatch

Continued from page 12.

Following lunch everyone gathered in the gym where the ceremonial curtain was on display. ZESS graduate Judae Smith told Ha-Shilth-Sa that the curtain designs represented four schools in Gold River, Tahsis, Zeballos and Kyuquot, and that all schools share the curtain, bringing it to their community when it's their turn to host the annual potlatch.

Principal Alsop welcomed everyone to the School District 84 potlatch and acknowledged the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, SD84 and NEW staff for their support in making the potlatch happen.

Dennis John and Jimmy Johnson guided the students through an important first step of any potlatch, the cleansing or blessing of the floor. The hosts then offered ta'iltma (support) to several guests who lost loved ones in their family. Each was lovingly wrapped in blankets.

The hosts performed two dances before guests were invited to perform. Haahuu-Payuk students were the first guest group to perform.

"We're very honoured to be here; we've heard what you've been doing for the past few years and we are pleased," said Haahuu-Payuk cultural teacher Trevor Little. His first order of business was to shake hands with the Ha'wiih, because, he said, it is important to hold up the leaders of our land, for without them, we have no direction.

Both culture teachers, Little and Lena Ross carefully explained where each of their songs came from and why they do each one.

The cii'qa, or prayer chant, Ross explained, was newly composed for the students of Haahuu-Payuk. "The kids use it when we're doing big business like Hinkeets dances; they know it is important to talk to the Creator first — and it's also intended to help them prepare for

when they graduate Grade 7 and move on to other schools. It helps them ground themselves," she explained.

Haahuu-Payuk students performed several dances that included brilliant regalia and headdresses, to the delight of the audience.

The next group to take the floor came from Port Hardy. The students of Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw School did several performances under the guidance of their cultural teachers William Wasden Jr. and K'iodi Nelson.

"We are happy to see that we're not the only ones doing what we're doing in our school," said Nelson. He was pleased to see the display of culture, alive and vibrant in the neighborhood Nuu-chah-nulth communities.

"It gives me great energy to see our children celebrating their culture; it was not all that long ago when the Canadian government banned this," he said.

Both Wasden and Nelson also carefully explained the stories behind each of

their performances. While there are differences in culture there was one strong similarity. The eagle down fluttering from their headdresses during a dance, said Wasden, represented peace and harmony.

Dances and presentations continued until dinner time. Principal Alsop said there were more performances that they didn't get to simply because they ran out of time. Students and their teachers had long distances to travel and needed to get home before it got too late. Kyuquot Elementary Secondary School will host the 2017 SD84 potlatch.



Photos by Denise Titian

Family Service Worker

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Usma Family and Child Services (FCS) is seeking a qualified person to fill a Family Service Worker position. Based out of the Usma FCS office (Port Alberni), this position will deliver professional support to at-risk Nuu-chah-nulth children and families.

Responsibilities include:

- Provide support services to Nuu-chah-nulth families and children at risk, who are residing in Port Alberni
- To work closely with Usma Social Workers
- Provide group and individual support and/or recreational work on issues as identified by Social Workers
- To provide education on peer and family issues
- To work closely with a range of community partners

Preferred Qualifications:

- Grade 12, plus Post-Secondary education/training in Social Services
- Skills in mediation, conflict resolution, and counselling would be considered an asset
- Several years of exposure to a First Nations work environment. Preference will be given to a person with Native ancestry
- Knowledge of Nuu-chah-nulth governance, culture and traditions
- Must have a vehicle and valid driver's licence
- Ability to work flexible hours
- Provide references and acceptable criminal record check

To learn more about this term work opportunity contact Kyra Mason, Usma FCS Director by email: Kyra.Mason@nuuchahnulth.org

Apply by **June 27, 2016** 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: apply@nuuchahnulth.org

(We regret that we will only respond to those applicants chosen for an interview)

Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

Social Work Opportunity

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Usma Family and Child Services is seeking a qualified Guardianship Social Worker to fill a term backfill position. Term social work activities can be in either an urban or rural setting and will involve travel. Our Usma Family and Child Services program specializes in providing professional, ethical, culturally sensitive, and responsible social work services to Nuu-chah-nulth families and children.

Responsibilities involve:

- Carrying a case load pertaining to the guardianship of children-in-care
- Working with member communities and partner organizations
- Responsibilities may include court requirements

Our term Social Workers receive a competitive salary, benefits that progress with time served, and compensation for travel while on duty.

Preferred Qualifications:

To be considered for a term position, you must have a BSW degree and possess C-6 or C-4 (preferred) Delegation; plus having worked in delegated services to First Nation children and families within the last year; and, provide acceptable references and criminal record check.

To learn more about this term social work opportunity contact Kyra Mason, Usma FCS Director by email: Kyra.Mason@nuuchahnulth.org

Apply by **June 27, 2016** 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: apply@nuuchahnulth.org

(We regret that we will only respond to those applicants chosen for an interview)

Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

Paddle Days strong and growing at Ditidaht School:

By Debora Steel
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Malachan—Ditidaht First Nation hosted the fifth annual TRC Paddle Days June 8 and June 9 at their home in Malachan with participation from about 160 students from kindergarten to Grade 12 from five B.C. schools (Ditidaht, Haahuupayak, Pacheedaht, Windsor House, a school from north Vancouver, and Saturna Educational Centre, a school on Saturna). The days included paddle races in the

morning while Nitinat Lake is calm. (The winds pick up in the afternoon and the area has become renowned for kite surfing.) During the afternoon on Day One the kids shared cultural dances and songs, played lahal, a traditional guessing game of bones and sticks, got their faces painted, made cedar bracelets and roses, or went on a nature walk.

Then there was a dinner of salmon and Dungeness crab (the community is known for the tasty crab it harvests) or tacos for those who preferred, and then

a dance for the young people in the evening. The next morning was the longer canoe races, testing the endurance of the paddlers.

In the early days, June 11 was set aside each year for Paddle Days by Canoe/Kayak BC, and it would be the only races held on this date. This year that date fell on a weekend, so the event in 2016 was moved to the week days for the schools' participation.

Originally it started as a nod to truth and reconciliation, said Eva Clarke, as a

way to acknowledge the amazing cultural activities that Ditidaht and the Nuuchahnulth peoples participate in. The goal of Paddle Days is to revitalize canoeing and bring the younger generations back to that activity.

She was involved in Paddle Days right from the beginning, as a teacher at Ditidaht school. And now that she has moved to teach at other schools, including Pacheedaht, she remains connected to the event.

Continued on page 15.



5 schools, 160 kids and a whole lot of paddle fun

Continued from page 14.

Ditidaht school principal Lauranne Huton has continued the paddling tradition, but although it is a school initiative, Paddle Days is indeed a community effort.

At the beginning, Clarke said, the school wanted to find a sport that a small community that didn't have enough for a team sport, like basketball or soccer, could participate in.

"It seemed like a logical choice to do canoeing because it's so much a part of their history and heritage, their songs,

their culture. They started with four canoes and it took off from there."

Reconciliation and revitalization is the underlying tone of the days, she said. And the event grows each year.

Ditidaht has become quite accomplished in their paddling skills, taking many medals in canoeing and kayaking at the North American Indigenous Games in 2014. They practise and train, setting aside part of each morning to be out on the water.

There are strong leaders and coaches

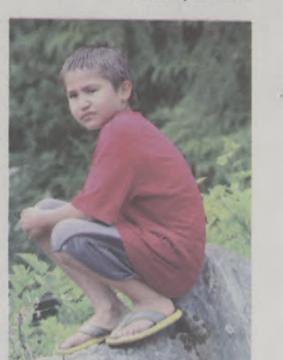
in the community that keep the paddlers motivated. Peter Amos began as an assistant coach and is now head coach. He hopes to build upon the success of the sport in the community and is working to take his competitors to nationals this year to see if they can win places on Team B.C. for competition this fall at this year's NAIG in Ontario. He's got just a few months to fundraise for entrance fees, and has a long list on his to-do list leading up to this event.

But on Paddle Days, he was enjoying

being out on the water watching over the fun, sometimes having to pull canoes out of the water after a tip (this year there were three on the first day) and helping to set up tables and move chairs and generally work with others to keep the days' events on track.

Our photos from June 8 (see link above) show a lot of smiling faces and students having fun, a testament to the great hospitality shown by the community to their guests.

Photos by Deb Steel





The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council continues to forge an improved relationship with the Federal Government under the Liberal Party of Canada.

Message from Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council President Deb Foxcroft and Vice President Ken Watts

On behalf of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, we would like to first extend our sincere condolences, thoughts and prayers to the families and communities who have lost loved ones over the past several months.

We would like to acknowledge and thank each and every one of our Ha'wiih, elected Chiefs and Councils, Administrators, community staff and NTC staff for all that you do to help create a better life for our muschim.

Much has happened since our last update to the communities. We both attended the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) meeting in Gatineau, Que. from Dec. 8 to 10, 2015, and had the opportunity to gift the Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau with a traditional whaler's hat.

As you may recall in the early 1980s, a delegation of Nuu-chah-nulth people presented Trudeau's father, Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau with a similar hat. It is a symbol of good faith and to acknowledge the beginning of a new relationship with the Government of Canada. Prime Minister Trudeau was moved by our gesture.

At this meeting we also presented gifts to Minister of Justice and the Attorney General of Canada, the Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, the Honourable Hunter Tootoo, and Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, the Honourable Carolyn Bennett.

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council was once again recognized as being at the forefront of First Nations gatherings. It appears that we now have strengthened our relationships with the new Federal government.

Earlier this year, we met with representatives of the Canadian Coast Guard to help lobby and advocate to have a greater presence for the Ahousaht First Nation and other Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations.

An exciting presentation recently occurred from representatives of the First Nations Land Management Board where the NTC Directors were fortunate enough to hear of the huge opportunities that First Nations have across Canada by entering into Land Code/First Nations Land Management whereby sections of the Indian Act no longer apply to those Nations under this regime.

Since the new Federal government was formed, the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council has sent numerous letters to Ministers addressing the over \$8 billion in the next 5 years that the current government has committed to in Budget 2016.

As set out in the NTC strategic plan as adopted and developed by our member First Nations, communications and capacity building have been at the forefront. The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council will support the majority of communities in these areas, by request.



In the next several months we will continue to visit communities and Chief and Councils from our respective 14 member Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations. We will be providing updates on previous work and plans for the future. Our intent is to work and engage our Nations to determine ongoing support needed in the future.



In April, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal released an order to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada for immediate remedial relief of discriminatory funding against First Nations children for child and welfare services. The order mandated the immediate implementation of Jordan's Principle which calls for all levels of government to provide equal and fair support to First Nations children free of discrimination.

Plans for 2016

An invitation has been sent out to the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation to explore and educate our Nations on the potential Reconciliation Agreement. This will help set a precedence with decision making, consultation, accommodation, consent and other Provincial matters. These agreements are optional and are only being explored as a possibility of creating a new relationship between our application First Nations and the Province of BC.

Reconciliation with all levels of governments is the key to our success in 2016. The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council has taken initiative as requested by our member Nations and have organized the first (which hasn't occurred for many years) Central Region meeting with the applicable First Nations, District of Tofino and Ucluelet, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, the local MP and MLA, to look at ways of working together.

Usma Family and Child Services

First Nations people have had tremendous wins for our children and families at the local, provincial and national levels over the last several months.

At the Nuu-chah-nulth level, an Usma Forum was held on Sept. 29 and 30, 2015 with at least 200 individuals in attendance, including elders, youth, elected chiefs and council members, hereditary chiefs, Usma staff and NTC managers and community support workers – our front line champions. Engagement was at the forefront of this open forum where we were able to gather input that was then crafted into recommendations to support and care for children, youth and families. This report was approved at our board of directors meeting on Feb. 24 and is available for distribution at Usma to our communities. Kyra Mason, Director of Usma Family and Child Services, has already begun implementing these recommendations.

Once we can identify and secure funding, we will plan to complete the remaining recommendations.

In the next several months we will continue to visit communities and Chief and Councils from our respective 14 member Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations. We will be providing updates on previous work and plans for the future. Our intent is to work and engage our Nations to determine ongoing support needed in the future.

Child welfare changes at the national level

The first anniversary of the Truth and Reconciliation summary report and its top 5 recommendations to address child welfare.

June 2 marked one year since the Truth and Reconciliation summary report was released to the public. The Commission behind the report (TRC) documented over 6,000 Indigenous residential school survivor testimonies and included 94 calls to action which recommended ways to mend the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians.

NTC wants more action, less talk on our children's future

Continued from page 16.

This report's top 5 recommendations all addressed child welfare and the immediate need for change in Canada. These recommendations have given us a solid framework to move forward and advocate more directly with the government of Canada and urge change now.

In the year since its release, governments have taken steps to implement these recommendations, including the launch of the first phase of the inquiry into missing and murdered aboriginal women in Canada. Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne publicly apologized for the brutalities suffered at residential schools.

Canadian Human Rights Tribunal orders the immediate implementation of Jordan's Principle

In April, the Tribunal released an order to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada for immediate remedial relief of discriminatory funding against First Nations children for child welfare services. This is an updated order from January's ruling on First Nation child and family services due to the department's lack of immediate response. The updated order also mandated the immediate implementation of Jordan's Principle which calls for all levels of government to provide equal and fair support to First Nations children, free of discrimination.

Frustration over lack of committed action from the Ministry of Children and Family Development

Over 400 First Nations leaders, front line workers and representatives from Aboriginal children and family organizations gathered to meet with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) at the BC First Nations Child and Family Gathering.

Meetings held have shown little progress and we were frustrated with the lack of committed action from the Ministry and the province of BC.

We as Nuu-chah-nulth did not go to the gathering to simply talk. We do not want



We have continued to support Ehattesah, Hesquiaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht and Tla-o-qui-aht with Aboriginal rights to fish and sell their catch by lobbying and advocating on behalf of these five Nations.

to waste our time, and more importantly our children's time. Our chiefs didn't travel from the West Coast of Vancouver Island to simply talk without action. So, we called upon the province of BC to commit to the following:

1. Develop a BC First Nations Child and Family Action Plan and Strategy (in partnership with First Nations) to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in care and work to prevent our children from going into care in the first place (with resources for implementation). The plan would include, but not be limited to items such as:

a. Increased funding for First Nations in terms of child and family services.
b. A policy and legislation review in partnership with First Nations with recommendations for amendments to action.

c. Develop an implementation working group in partnership with First Nations to create an action plan for the implementation of ALL The TRC Calls to Action in terms of Child Welfare.

d. Commitment to fund Aboriginal Family Court Workers across BC OR family court training for First Nations

people across BC.

e. Work with First Nations Leadership Council on all future appointments of the Assistant Deputy Minister position in MCFD who is responsible for the Aboriginal Child and Family Services.

f. Develop an "aging out" strategy (in partnership with First Nations) for First Nations children in care so that they are provided with the proper supports, programs and services before they age out.

g. Develop a joint action plan on implementing Jordan's Principle in the Province of BC.

h. Create a working group, in partnership with First Nations, to begin jurisdiction preliminary discussions with BC, Canada and BC First Nations.

Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program (NETP)

We look forward to the Government of Canada looking to extend the Tripartite Education Framework Agreement (TEFA) which supports First Nations operated schools. The NTC would like to remind our people that this was supposed to be a temporary step into achieving full jurisdiction of our students' education for "band" operated schools.

The Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program (NETP) will continue to do collaborative work with our people and hope to see new funding for 2016-

2017. The NETP will work with the new Federal government on ensuring that this program continues on and evolves to support our people in the best way.

T'aaq-wiihak Fisheries

Over the past several months we have continued to support Ahousaht, Ehattesah, Hesquiaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht and Tla-o-qui-aht with Aboriginal rights to fish and sell their catch by lobbying and advocating on behalf of these five Nations.

Nuu-chah-nulth Vice-President Ken Watts had the opportunity to testify on behalf of the five Nations on Feb. 17 in the "justification" trial.

We will continue to push for a meeting between these five Nations, Minister Dominic LeBlanc (new Minister of Fisheries and Oceans) and Minister Wilson-Raybould and encourage the government of Canada to quit wasting taxpayers dollars fighting First Nations in court.

We have received direction from the Ha'wiih and Nations to ensure the commercial roe herring fisheries remain closed on West Coast Vancouver Island until Nuu-chah-nulth Nations agree that its herring stocks are sufficient to allow a commercial herring opening. The seine and gillnet commercial herring fisheries were not open in Nuu-chah-nulth territories this last spring, in part through an agreement reached between Nuu-chah-nulth Nations and the commercial herring industry.

Canada publicly announces full support of UNDRIP

The renewed commitment to Canada's Indigenous peoples was confirmed at the 15th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) when the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, declared full support of the UNDRIP. We are excited to hear Minister Bennett's recent statements for the adoption of UNDRIP. However, the NTC is cautiously optimistic as there is currently an immediate need for change and action.



Celebrating 25 years of service!



Eye? Sq'alewen

The Centre for Indigenous Education & Community Connections



camosun.ca/indigenous



From our work with the Nuu-chah-nulth Nations to the work with political organizations, the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council executive has been working hard for a better future for the Nuu-chah-nulth peoples.



Nuu-chah-nulth Nations take on the cannery business at St. Jean's in Nanaimo.

Nuu-chah-nulth Nations celebrate new step in fisheries revitalization

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Nanaimo—A celebration was held at the Nanaimo St. Jean's Cannery and Smoke House on June 3 to commemorate the Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood Development Corporation's purchase of majority shares of a family-owned island-based cannery. St. Jean's Cannery and Smokehouse has operated their stores and facilities in Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Campbell River and Richmond, B.C. since 1961. Gerard St. Jean said his family has a long-standing working relationship with Nuu-chah-nulth communities.

"We started with Nitinaht crab and we bought butter clams from first nations," said St. Jean. There were others interested in purchasing the thriving business, but it was the Nuu-chah-nulth that understood St. Jean's vision.

"They have the communities and the commitment required to be successful in this industry," said CEO Steve Hughes. Ditidaht, Huu-ay-aht, Kyuquot/Checklesah, Uchucklesaht and Ucluelet Nations negotiated the deal with St. Jean's in November 2015, said Kathy Happynook, the seafood corporation's administrator. "We researched business opportuni-

ties that we could enter into and this was one," she said.

Larry Johnson, Nuu-chah-nulth Cannery Board Chairman, said purchasing St. Jean's will provide jobs and generate revenue.

"St. Jean's aligns with our vision; they have a great reputation, there is growth potential and Gerard (St. Jean) and family have shown leadership in seafood sustainability that is in line with our values," said Johnson.

Gerard St. Jean said his father started the business and he's been involved for 54 years.

"I was looking for an exit strategy," he told Ha-Shilth-Sa, adding he would stay on for another five years to help transition the new owners. He thanked everyone for sharing in the celebration. "Together we can go forward to build this company even bigger and better," said St. Jean.

"We're really excited about where we're going with this new economic development opportunity for our people," said Huu-ay-aht Tyee Ha'wilth Derek Peters. "We're bringing fisheries back and this is another exciting opportunity in the fishing industry," said Trevor Cootes. Gifts were exchanged and guests were invited to a barbecue lunch while singers from each of the nations drummed.

The Port Alberni Friendship Center Welcomes You to Celebrate National Aboriginal Day, Tuesday, June 21st, 2016, 11:30am - 2:30pm

Alberni Friendship Center Port vous souhaite la bienvenue pour célébrer la Journée nationale des Autochtones, le mardi, 21e Juin, 2016, 11 heures 30-14h30

Happy National Aboriginal Day

Valley Vision Optometry
4009 Redford Street
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 3R9
P 250.724.0933
www.valleyvisionoptometry.ca



Port Alberni Port Authority

The Port Authority is proud of our shared community history and bright future together! We join in the celebration of Canada's National Aboriginal Day.

www.alberniport.ca

Respect and Congratulations to the Nuu-chah-nulth-aht recognizing that today is your special day.

Celebrate 'National Aboriginal Day' proudly!

MacDermott's

INSURANCE AGENCY LTD.

4907 Argyle Street | Port Alberni | (250)724-3241
"Always on Argyle" | Since 1908

School sports day a blast in Ahousaht

By Renee Little
Ha-Shilth-Sa Contributor

Ahousaht's Maaqtusis Schools' Sports Day was held June 6. The day started out with the 50m race, and went through the 100, 200 and 400 metre races.

Relays and spin and run games and a marathon race were also held. The school saved the fun games—the Spoon and Ball and the Hokey Pokey — until last.

The community came out to watch the kids and teaching staff compete. It was a fun day for all.



Photos by Renee Little

Andrew and Caleb in a heated battle on Sports Day.



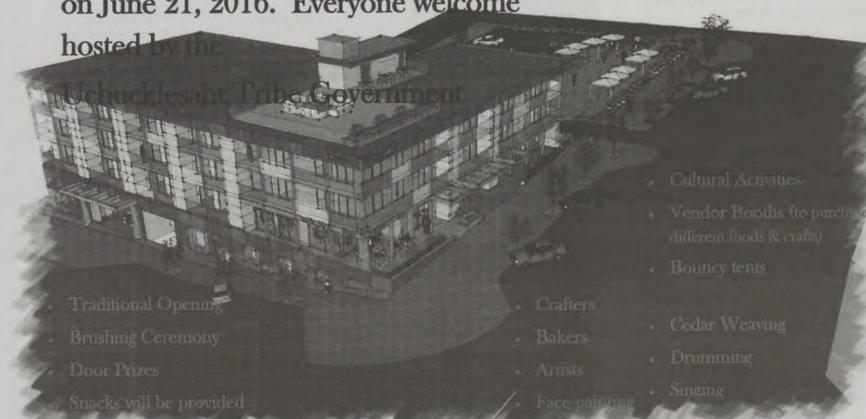
Elementary teacher Daisy Sutherland with mom Ilene Thomas. Top left: Neveah Frank with the spoon and ball race.



Greta Charlie watches the 50 metre race.

Aboriginal Day of Wellness 2016 at the Alberni Athletic Hall, from 10am to 3pm on June 21, 2016. Everyone welcome hosted by the Uchucklesaht Tribe Government

Uchucklesaht Tribe Government



Traditional Opening
Brushing Ceremony
Door Prizes
Snacks will be provided

Crafters
Bakers
Artists
Face painting
Cultural Activities
Vendor Booths for purchase of different foods & crafts
Bouncy tents
Cedar Weaving
Drumming
Singing

First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

If anyone interested in renting a booth OR table, please contact Charlotte Rampanen or Lysa Ray at 250-724-1832

Financial contribution from First Nations Health Authority

Addictions & Mental Health Counseling Services

Are designed to guide and aid you toward goals that reflect your desire to live healthier a life. Counseling and Therapy programs address the individual's health, including the following areas of concern:

- Mental Health
- co-dependency
- Adult children of Alcoholics,
- Relationships
- Other Issues

Ph: 250 723-8281



50th Anniversary

www.acrd.bc.ca

Happy National Aboriginal Day to our First Nation communities.

3008 5th Ave Port Alberni, BC • phone: 250.720.2700

hashilthsa.com

Students net skills to help them fish commercially

A lunch was held for the graduates of a new national initiative that pairs experts in the field of aquatic resources with those interested in a career in the fishing industry.

The learners received their certificates on May 13 at the Tseshaht Administration building, with the exception of one, who couldn't be with his class because he was already working out on a commer-

cial fish boat.

The Aboriginal Fisheries Apprenticeship program was a three-month national pilot program giving Nuuchahnulth members four Transport Canada certifications and a Stability certificate from Fish Safe (an organization that provides on-the-water safety training in B.C.), as well as practical skills, such as tying knots, rope splicing, and net mending.

The course was presented in partner-

ship between Uu-athluk, Huu-ay-aht First Nation, Nuuchahnulth Seafood Development Corporation (NSDC), Tseshaht/Hupacasath Commercial Fishing Enterprise (CFE).

School District 70, and the Nuuchahnulth Employment and Training Program (NETP).

"The average age of a sea captain is 65 years old, and 55 years for a commercial

deckhand," said Larry Johnson, president, Nuuchahnulth Seafood Development Corporation. He was proud today to help train new blood for the industry and today hand each graduate items that they will need on the boats, including personal floatation devices, rain gear, and a knife, as well as hats and sweatshirts, along with the certificates they earned.



My son Johnnie James Manson's day has finally arrived. He graduated May 30. He received his Master's Degree in Business Management & Environmental. He has done this all on his own. For you see my son has 2 or more diplomas on his wall. 1 more his Master's. He is a young man who likes to keep busy. He is on his 3rd semester. He's doing his Phd. Wow, I am so amazed.

My Grandchildren witnessed his special day. Tatayana, Eugene. My granddaughter wanted so much to be there for her uncle. Her mom allowed her to go to be there for her mom. The look on my granddaughter's face was priceless. Her eyes sparkled with happiness. She was beaming. For you see my son & daughter are great role models for my grandchildren.



School District 70 (Alberni)
"Always Learning"

Happy National Aboriginal Day June 21 2016

From the Board of Education

4690 Roger Street, Port Alberni • Phone 250-723-3565 • www.sd70.bc.ca

GET YOUR MONEY NOW!!!

**PAY NO
WITHOLDING
TAX WITH
STATUS CARD**

Do you have a registered
pension plan from a
former employer?

WE UNLOCK:

- **FORMER EMPLOYER PENSION PLANS**
- **LOCKED IN RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS**

FUNDS WILL BE DEPOSITED DIRECTLY INTO
YOUR BANK ACCOUNT

* Not Available in QC



WEALTH MANAGEMENT INC.

Insuring your future!

CALL MARK Toll Free: 1 (888) 451-6133

PAID ADVERTISEMENT - PLEASE CHECK PROCESSING FEES & OTHER CHARGES

www.hashilthsa.com

Community & Beyond

Charles Watts Memorial Potlatch Sept. 17 Port Alberni

The family of late Charles Watts will be hosting the remainder of their memorial potlatch at Maht Mahs Gym on Sept. 17, 2016 starting at 2 p.m. The family hosted a celebration of life potlatch on Apr. 2, 2016. Partway through the festivities the hosts learned of the passing of a community elder and postponed the potlatch out of respect. They invite people back to Maht Mahs in the fall to complete the celebration of life feast for the late Charles Watts.

Memorial Oct. 1 Port Alberni

On behalf of her sister Marie Nookemus and May's children and grandchildren, join them Oct 1st at Alberni Athletic Hall 2016. The Family of the late May McCarthy - Doiron invite you to join us beginning at 10 a.m.

Suicide Peer Support Group First Thursday, Monthly Port Alberni

The KUU-US Crisis Line Society hold a Suicide Peer Support Group Meeting on the first Thursday of each month at the KUU-US Office location. 4589 Adelaide Street in Port Alberni. Time 6-8 pm light refreshments served. Please insert this information into your newspaper. Thank You. If you have any questions please call the crisis line at 250-723-4050.



NUU-CHAH-NULTH TRIBAL COUNCIL'S 7TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER SWING FORE TLU-PIICH GAMES

This year marks the 7th Annual Golf Tournament for the Nuuchahnulth's Tlu-piich Games and our goal is to raise even more so that we can bring families together for fun and competitive activities while celebrating our life, heritage and culture.

Date: Thursday July 21, 2016
Time: Registration at 12:00 PM. Shot Gun start at 1:00 PM. Dinner at 6:30 PM
Place: Alberni Golf Club (6449 Cheery Creek Road, Port Alberni)

IF YOU REQUIRE MORE INFORMATION OR REGISTRATION FORMS, PLEASE CONTACT: KEN WATTS VICE PRESIDENT NYC OR MARISA BENNETT, A/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AT 250 724-2727 OR MARISA.BENNETT@NUUCHAHNULTH.ORG

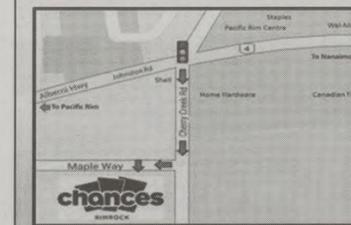


Slots. Bingo. Restaurant/Lounge
Private Dining Rooms. Off-Site Catering
4890 Cherry Creek Rd, Port Alberni, BC.
250-724-ROCK(7625)

www.chancesrimrock.ca

Chances Rimrock

@chancesrimrock



bclc If you gamble, use your GameSense 19+

hashilthsa.com

Ratcliff & Company LLP
Lawyers

Proudly serving First Nations since 1966

Wishing Everyone A Happy National Aboriginal Day

(604) 988-5201
Suite 500, 221 W. Esplanade
North Vancouver, B.C. www.ratcliff.com

Specializing in First Nations auditing,
taxation and strategic planning



McINTOSH | NORTON | WILLIAMS
certified general accountants

Proudly working with First Nations for over twenty-five years

2nd Floor, 4445 Gertrude St. Port Alberni. Phone: 250.724.0185
141 Alberni Highway Parksville. Phone: 250.586.7996
102-222 Second Avenue W. Qualicum Beach. Phone: 250.752.6996



CALL FOR CATERING BIDS:

N.T.C. IS ACCEPTING CATERING SERVICES BIDS

for the

2015-16 Education, Employment and Training:
Graduation and Scholarship Ceremony!

Date: Saturday, July 2, 2016
Place: Alberni Athletic Hall, Port Alberni
Time: Event starts at 10:00 A.M.

Catering services are required for approximately 375 people as follows:

- Coffee Service including coffee, tea, juice, on arrival, mid-morning, mid-afternoon and at lunch; No Styrofoam/plastic cups please
- Table service for water
- Mid-morning and mid-afternoon Chumus breaks (assorted healthy snacks);
- Buffet style Hot Lunch Minimum 2 meats, 2 veggies, 2 salads, 2 starches, 2 desserts

Caterers will be expected to:

- Supply utensils, plates, cups etc.
- Prepare and serve above mentioned meals;
- Clean up after each meal;

Please submit your catering bid with a sample menu, and copies of Food Safe certificates for all catering staff to:

Attention: Randy Ginger, NTC Education Department
By fax: (250) 724-968
By email: randy.ginger@nuuchahnulth.org
In person: NTC Office - 5001 Mission Road, Port Alberni

Catering bids will only be accepted until 4:00 PM, Friday, May 6, 2016.

Thank you to all those that apply. Only the successful caterer will be contacted.

Nuu-chah-nulth class celebrates year-end with lunch

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Ucluelet—Students and Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker Jason Sam celebrated the end of the Ucluelet Secondary School classes by thanking all the people that came in to teach them throughout the year.

On June 8, Sam invited guest teachers to the school garden to enjoy some tlu-p-chus (a traditional salmon barbecue), bannock and fresh vegetables.

Joe Martin of Tla-o-qui-aht demonstrated step-by-step how to cut a whole salmon to prepare it for cooking by an open fire. He brought with him a tlu-p-chus stick he made from a salmon berry stalk. He also had some red cedar sticks and string to hold the salmon splayed open as it cooked.

While the salmon was cooking, some people roasted strips of bannock dough over the fire. Others continued working on an art project destined for the Ucluelet Aquarium.

A volunteer organization called Surfrider, Pacific Rim Chapter, has been working with the students on a program they call Guardians of the Land. It is a program designed to teach people about ocean pollution and the risks that things like plastics and other toxins have on the marine environment.

Part of the learning experience was bringing the students out to beaches and creeks for a clean-up. A spokesperson for Surfrider said a volunteer clean-up crew, including students, went to Mercantile Creek on June 1. The creek was selected because it is the water source for Ucluelet and Hitacu.

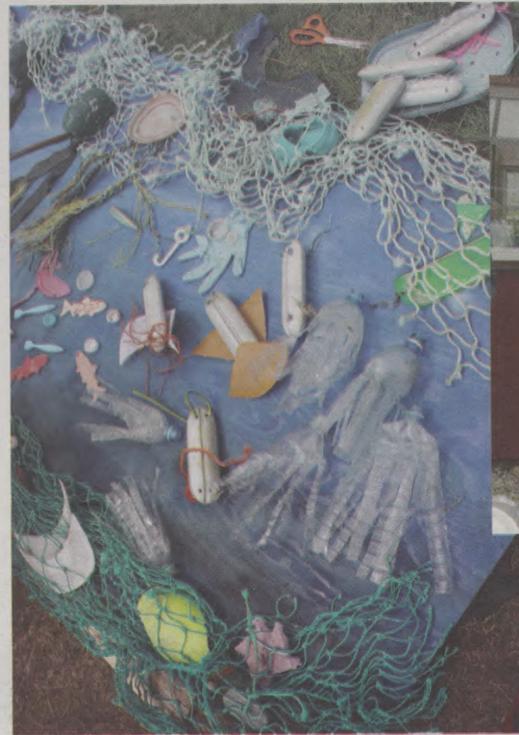
Over the course of a few hours the work crew pulled out two truckloads of trash, including mattresses, box springs and a 250 litre drum partially filled with kerosene.

On another day they went out to Wya Beach and picked up 466 pieces of trash — mostly plastic. The most dangerous for the environment is Styrofoam, which breaks into smaller pieces and is consumed by marine life.

Some of the collected plastics went to the school where Tofino artist Peter Clarkson guided the students in the creation of an ocean mural.

Using plastic trash they collected on the beach, some paint, glue and nails, the students made images of bull kelp, jelly fish, star fish and little blue fish made out of paint brush handles found washed up on the beach.

During the picnic the students put the finishing touches on their beach trash mural.



Photos by Denise Titian

Above: Students worked on the mural they made from the plastic trash collected from creeks and beaches. **Above right:** Joe Martin teaches a lesson in cooking salmon beside a fire, and below right Rose Wilson enjoys some salmon for lunch.

Next to it will be a story board they created showing what they've learned over the year about the problems plastics in the ocean cause.

The students presented two cedar tlu-p-chus sticks to the Surfrider organization, thanking them for showing how impor-

tant it is to keep plastic out of the ocean. The sticks will be used at future beach clean-ups so the volunteers can enjoy a barbecue salmon while they're hard at work.

Over lunch the students each promised to eliminate the use of at least one plastic

item. Some chose plastic shopping bags, drinking straws, and beverage containers.

Sam thanked everyone that came to the school to teach his Nuu-chah-nulth class over the past year. Guests were invited to teach things like Nuu-chah-nulth language, culture, harvesting cedar bark, preparing salmon, stewardship of the ocean and much more.

He thanked Joe Martin, Rose Wilson, Brian Wilson, Carlos Mack, Dr. Bernice Touchie, Peter Clarkson, Surfrider, David Hurowitz and all that came to share their knowledge with the Nuu-chah-nulth class.

Go online at www.hashilthsa.com to see Joe Martin's step by step instruction for Tlu-p-chus salmon. Look under the tab: Photos.

Happy National Aboriginal Day June 21



Road Construction | Excavating | Land Clearing | Drilling | Blasting

www.roc-star.ca

3213 Kingsway Ave, Port Alberni (250) 724-3351

TSESHAHT MARKET GATEWAY TO THE PACIFIC RIM



Hours of operation - 7:00 am - 10:30 pm

Phone: 724-3944

Visit us on Facebook



Chief Charlie Cootes and Sergeant Dave Paddock sign the Letter of Expectation.

Uchucklesaht and RCMP sign Letter of Expectation

On May 17, the Uchucklesaht Tribe and the RCMP signed off on the updated annual Letter of Expectation at the Uchucklesaht Tribe Government Office in Port Alberni. The letter sets out policing service priorities.

The **First Nations Policing Program (FNPP)** gives First Nations communities the opportunity to participate with the federal and provincial governments in tripartite agreements for the provision of dedicated policing services in their communities.

The RCMP currently provides policing services to a number of First Nation communities through a contingent of First Nations police officers working within the RCMP.

The RCMP First Nations Community Policing Service (FNCPS) incorporates the principles and objectives of the FNPP, including:

- service levels equivalent to those of

- non-First Nations communities;
- compatibility and sensitivity to First Nations culture and beliefs; and
- flexibility to accommodate local variations in policing needs.

Under the FNPP, the RCMP FNCPS is governed by two separate agreements:

- a Framework Agreement between the province/territory and the federal government outlining funding and other managerial arrangements; and
- a Community Tripartite Agreement (CTA) between the First Nation community, the provincial government and the federal government, outlining the specific details of the community policing service.

Uchucklesaht Tribe also invites the RCMP to Uchucklesaht Tribe events throughout the year to introduce the officers working with the nation and to continue building a positive working relationship.

BMO Bank of Montreal

Making money make sense™

Tsahaheh Branch

7585 Pacific Rim Highway Port Alberni, BC V9Y 8Y5

Phone # 250-720-5037 Fax # 250-724-0707

We will be celebrating National Aboriginal Day Saturday June 18 by having a hot dog barbecue, with drinks and cake. Please stop by between 11am to 3pm to join us.



Honouring the past, present and future on National Aboriginal Day

Gord Johns
NDP MP for Courtenay-Alberni

1-844-620-9924
Gord.Johns@parl.gc.ca
www.gordjohns.ca



Returning Seasonal Fisheries Staff Eager to Apply Their Learning



Jared Dick, Uu-a-thluk Associate Biologist, Candace Picco, Central Region Biologist in Bedwell Sound to measure juvenile salmon.

JARED DICK joins Uu-a-thluk for another term, this time for a six-month term as an associate biologist, after successfully completing his Bachelor of Science with a major in marine biology and environmental studies minor from the University of Victoria. For his final year Jared took courses in freshwater ecosystems, biological oceanography and advanced aquatic ecology, and is looking forward to applying some of what he learned.

“I’m especially interested in exploring the role of ‘primary productivity’ in an aquatic ecosystem,” he said. Jared explained that in aquatic systems, most primary production is performed by organisms called phytoplankton which provides energy and nutrients to other species. “When these microscopic organisms are affected by logging or fertilizer runoff it can have a negative impact on all species in the food web.” Jared’s interest in how aquatic species interact and influence one another also reflects his fascination with issues arising from the introduction of non-indigenous species into an ecosystem. He uses the example of purposely introduced non-native shrimp in the Flathead River-Lake ecosystem in Montana and the Canadian Rockies that directly compete with juvenile endangered salmon for important food resources. Jared refers to the famous phrase, “We have known knowns, known unknowns and unknown unknowns” to describe how the ‘unknown unknowns’ are cause for concern as we’re not yet aware of their consequences. Though he adds that no matter what science-based question he’s asking, he always views it from a Nuu-chah-nulth perspective.

“Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations have individual traditions, knowledge and protocols that inform how we manage and care for aquatic resources,” he said. “In Nuu-chah-nulth, the phrase *hishuk ish tsawalk* means ‘everything is one’ and expresses the belief that humans, plants, and animals form part of a whole that is kept in the balance through cooperation and mutual respect.”

Jared is Tseshaht and Hupacasath First Nations through his mother Tracey Watts and his father Jason Dick. His Qu-us name is Uu-xwinn-mutts, which means, “shares the ground with dancing birds.”

COLETON (COLE) GOMEZ-LEISHMAN joins Uu-a-thluk for his second year as a fisheries intern, during his last internship, Cole explored—with Uu-a-thluk staff and the NTC Education Department—post-secondary education opportunities related to resource management. His experiences during the internship led him to change his education focus from criminology to resource management.

“My experiences last summer at Uu-a-thluk doing field work, observing fisheries, and shadowing fisheries guardians, managers, and DFO fisheries officers made me realize that resource management provides many opportunities, and it’s something I’m drawn to,” he said.

This past year Cole took courses at North Island College in math, English, criminal law, and criminology to qualify for enrollment in Resource Management Officer Technology (RMOT), a two-year program offered by Vancouver Island University (VIU). This program is designed to prepare students for careers related to the protection and management of Canada’s fisheries, wildlife, and parks resources. While going to school, Cole worked as a program assistant employed by Parks, Recreation & Heritage with the City of Port Alberni. “I spent lots of time helping kids of all ages at the Multiplex,” he said, adding that this experience will benefit him when he assists at Uu-a-thluk science camps, this summer.

A focus of this internship, Cole added, is to deepen his learning about the many aspects of resource management as it relates to fisheries, and to observe Nuu-chah-nulth resource management principals in action. “I’d like to see how the various fisheries use Nuu-chah-nulth principals and methods to manage salmon, shellfish and groundfish in Nuu-chah-nulth territories,” he explained.

Cole traces his ancestors through the Tseshaht First Nation, and was born in Yellowknife and raised in Port Alberni.



Uu-a-thluk Intern Cole Gomez-Leishman GPS mapping for T’aaq-wiihak fishery on gooseneck barnacle beds outside Tofino.



Candace Picco, Central Region Biologist, Jared Dick, Associate Biologist and Cole Gomez-Leishman, Uu-a-thluk Intern, measuring and weighing juvenile salmon in Bedwell Sound.

Uu-a-thluk
P.O. Box 1383
Port Alberni, B.C.
V9Y 7M2

Ph: 250.724.5757
Fax: 250.724.2172
info@uuathluk.ca

www.uuathluk.ca