



# Huu-ay-aht Uyaqhmis

A Rich History, A Bright Future.

June 2009



**Kamatap-ḥak hiṭ-ii?**  
*DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS IS?*



**HINT:** Spanish mapmakers named this place, mistakenly thinking they were at Jordan River. Protocol and the care of this place was entrusted by Chief Louie as a wedding gift to Aggie Peters, the wife of *Tliishin-mit the Elder* (Arthur Peters) who later entrusted this responsibility to her daughters and Nora, the wife of *Tliishin-mit the Younger* (Spencer Peters).

*See Page 7 for Answer...*

## OUR STORIES: ANACLA

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**Corrections:** Last month, Uyaqhmis reported that the next term of office for Chief & Council will be a reduced term. Some felt this is misleading, it is likely that this term of office will be a reduced term -- it is not guaranteed to be so.



**HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS**  
A Rich History, A Bright Future

Huu-ay-aht Uyaqhmis is printed ten times per year to foster community awareness and involvement among a population of over six-hundred and fifty people.

Huu-ay-aht Uyaqhmis promotes the recovery of the Huu-ay-aht dialect of the Nuu-chah-nulth language, culture and principles. An additional goal is to increase community skills and capacity as the Huu-ay-aht First Nations get ready for Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty in 2010.

Send any letters to the editor, comments, questions or requests to the Huu-ay-aht Communications Department. Contact information is listed below.

Please note that the HFN Communications Department reserves the right to select submissions based on theme and content and may edit materials for grammar and space. We are committed to accuracy in our reporting, if a mistake is made, please let us know and we will correct it in our next issue.

Items not selected for publication in this newsletter may be published on the Huu-ay-aht website, and as above, may be edited for space and grammar.

The Huu-ay-aht Communications Department is governed by the Huu-ay-aht Communications Committee, a group selected by the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Chief & Council.



*We, the Huu-ay-aht people, envision a proud, self-governing, and sovereign nation. Isaak will guide us as we work together to establish a healthy, prosperous and self-sustaining community where our culture, language, spirituality and economy prosper for the benefit of all Huu-ay-aht.*

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# ELECTIONS AND COMMUNITY ROUNDS

## HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS GENERAL ELECTION

The HFN will be holding a general election on 6 June 2009. The polling stations will be open for registered voters holding valid Status Cards who are at least eighteen (18) years old. The polls will be open from 8:00am to 8:00pm. Locations for the polls will be:

1. House of Huu-ay-aht, Anacla, BC.
2. HFN Treaty Office, 3483 Third Avenue, Port Alberni, BC.
3. Eurostar Hotel, 3020 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC.
4. Holiday Inn Downtown, 1110 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC.

There are four candidates nominated for the position of Chief-Councillor are: Robert Dennis (Sr.), Johnson Ginger, Edward Johnson and Lawerance (Larry) Johnson.

Currently, there are fourteen candidates nominated for the four positions of Councillor, there were eighteen but three have dropped out by the time of publishing. The candidates are: Andrew Clappis, Ben Clappis, Norman Dennis, Rob Dennis (Jr.), Bill Ginger, Karen Haugen, John Jack, Tommy Joe, Georgie Nookemus, Richard Nookemus, Stella Peters, Irene D. Williams, Irene M. Williams, Ralph Wylie and Roseanne Young.

For a complete list of the candidates, their nominators and the seconds, please visit the HFN website for more details: <[www.huuayaht.org](http://www.huuayaht.org)>. Any questions? Please contact Shira, the Electoral Officer at <[shirak@telus.net](mailto:shirak@telus.net)> and/or (250) 338-7987.

## HUU-AY-AHT COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Following the election, the HFN will be hosting another series of community information sessions in June. In total, there will be five meetings in five locations.

The doors will open at 4:30pm and food will be served at 5:00pm. Afterwards, the HFN Governance Committee will present information on three laws that are set to be legally drafted: *elections, referenda and citizenship*. These laws will come into legal force on the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, and are the "new rules" that will replace the Ministry of Indian and Northern Affairs' regulations.

1. June 16: Vancouver at the Chateau Granville Hotel
2. June 17: Victoria at the Sandman Hotel
3. June 18: Nanaimo at the Coast Bastion Hotel
4. June 23: Anacla at the House of Huu-ay-aht
5. June 24: Port Alberni at the Barclay Hotel



An invitation with agenda and three backgrounders about the three topics will be sent to your household by mail before the meetings are held. For more information, please send an e-mail to <[cyrstal.macey@shawcable.com](mailto:cyrstal.macey@shawcable.com)> or call (250) 723-0100.

## ELECTIONS ACT, REFERENDUM ACT AND CITIZENSHIP ACT

The HFN Governance Committee is responsible for the creation of various laws. So far three have neared completion:

### Elections Act

The Huu-ay-aht Constitution calls for the creation of a Huu-ay-aht Elections Act. The HFN government has since approved a document of recommendations and have sent it to the community's legal counsel, Rob Botterell, for drafting.

All the documents presented to Chief & Council have been created with certain guiding principles. The Elections Act guidelines are no exception. They state that elections in the HFN should be fair, accessible and transparent; that they should be cost-efficient and cost-effective; and that they should be defensible from legal challenge.

The Elections Act guidelines have several key features. For instance, the election of the Chief-Councillor will be held before the election of the Council, thus allowing for unsuccessful Chief-Councillor candidates to run in the Council election. Also, elections will allow for mail-in ballots to promote greater participation in the vote.

### Referendum Act

The Huu-ay-aht Constitution also calls for the creation of a Referendum Act. A referendum is a vote held on a specific question; its plural form is 'referenda.' Classic examples of a referendum in Canada are the votes that the province of Quebec have held to decide whether they should become an independent nation-state.

In the HFN, a referendum could potentially be held in several instances: (1) to see approval to amend the Huu-ay-aht Constitution, (2) to decide on a major decision concerning land or money, and (3) to seek non-binding input from citizens on an important matter such as banning certain dog breeds or prohibiting alcohol on HFN public lands.

Like the Elections Act, the Referendum guidelines were written with certain specific guid-

ing principles. The first principle is that any referendum must first be balanced with the responsibility of the elected government to govern and the right of citizens to participate in major decisions. Other principles include cost-efficiency and effectiveness, that the question is clear and that both the HFN government and its people have reasonable opportunity to propose non-binding referenda on specific issues.

Key features of the Referendum Act include the ability of the citizens to trigger a referendum by obtaining a petition signed by twenty-five percent of eligible voters or a resolution at the People's Assembly where at least twenty-five percent of the eligible voters are present. The HFN government is able to call for a referendum by majority decision or if it is called for in the Constitution.

### Citizenship Act

The Citizenship Act determines who can participate in elections and referenda. The process of defining Huu-ay-aht membership is complex. There are three separate "types" of Huu-ay-aht membership, each derived from a different legal document.

*Indian Status* is perhaps the most familiar. "Status" is defined by the Indian Act, a federal law created by people in Ottawa to legally define who is an aboriginal person.

The second type is *Treaty Enrolment*, which is derived from the Maa-nulth Treaty. A treaty-enrolled person has access to specific rights and privileges that come out of the treaty.

The third type is created by the Huu-ay-aht Constitution and is called *Citizenship*. Most of the rights to political participation in the HFN community (voting, etc.) are located here.

At the community information sessions held this month, the HFN Governance committee will seek some guidance regarding eligibility of members and further definition of complex issues of membership such as marriage. More information will be provided at the community meetings.

## AN UNQUALIFIED OPINION

For the past fifteen years, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations have employed the auditors from McIntosh, Norton & Williams to annually audit our financial records. Each year, our financial audit has produced the best possible rating: an Unqualified Opinion.

In the language of financial accountability, an auditor can give one of two opinions that can instantly summarize the financial health of an organization: qualified or unqualified.

The best is an "Unqualified Opinion" and indicates that funds were spent correctly and the numbers are not "materially mis-stated." The review of the finances demonstrates that the financial records have been "clean" and that "no alarm bells" were sounded as a result of the auditor's review.

The HFN will likely achieve another "Unqualified Opinion" for this past year. Its record of prudent financial management provides the context for the next budget for 2009-2010.

This year's budget is focused on Treaty Implementation and keeping existing services. Program and service budgets have been largely maintained at last year's level to ensure the services continue. With the Treaty signed, the budget includes significant borrowing to fund implementation such as construction of the administration building, purchase of land and forest tenure and economic development activity. Some past spending has not been included in the budget. The annual distribution and carving budget have been suspended to minimize borrowing costs.

The Financial Management Team is preparing a more detailed budget report that will be shared with the Huu-ay-aht membership to coincide with the Huu-ay-aht Annual General Meeting slated for Fall 2009. The date for that meeting will be communicated as soon as it is set.

# OUR STORIES: ANACLA

On 9 August 1969, some two hundred and fifty people gather to celebrate the opening of what was then called an "Ohiht Band Housing Development On the Way to Pachena Bay."

This 'housing development' has come to be known as Anacla Village, the largest of present day village sites of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations.

As is true with all village sites within Huu-ay-aht traditional territories, Anacla has an ancient history as well as a more recent history. Other village sites such as Kuk-swiis (Sarita Bay), Numukamis, Chii-wis, Tlu-tiis, A-at-su-iis, Mal-sit will be considered in upcoming editions of the Uyaqhmis.

It is now widely accepted, even by the government of Canada itself, that various levels of Canadian government were responsible for creating institutions and policies whose primary purpose was to unravel the traditional Huu-ay-aht connection to family, ancestral lands, language and culture.

It is fair to say that the impact of these policies was directly responsible for a great deal of damage to what many Huu-ay-aht hold most sacred. Ultimately, however, these efforts were doomed once the Huu-ay-aht leadership began to reclaim their own history and began the long struggle to retake rights denied during two hundred years of colonialism.

View through this historic lens, it is particularly interesting and worth remembering Anacla as we approach the Fortieth Year Anniversary of the move to the back to this ancestral village site.

In the early 1960s, Parks Canada had intentions of absorbing the present site of Anacla Village and Pachena Bay Campground into the West Coast Trail / Pacific Rim National Park Reserve.

At that same time, Huu-ay-aht leadership was de-

termined not to let this happen. Chief Art Peters with the support of community leaders Benson Nookemis, Ralph Johnson, and Simon Dennis Sr. (among others) developed the plan to construct a new village site at Anacla.

They were successful and today the residents of Anacla and, indeed, the entire Huu-ay-aht First Nations are able to enjoy the benefits of the hard work and commitment



was to remain uninhabited until the events of the 1960s described above.

Benson Nookemis who was a part of the planning to revive the village site in Anacla remembers that additional reasons to develop the Anacla site. These reasons include the fact the moorage for the fishing fleet was fairly limited at the Nuumakamyiis, a location that was the largest Huu-ay-aht village sites at that time. Smaller village sites included: Sug-saw (Grappler Inlet), Kuuk-swiis (Sarita Bay), Cha-pis (Dogers Cove). The move to Anacla served then to bring together many families from all over the Huu-ay-aht territories.

While the community of Anacla thrived over the years with new home construction, a store and gas station and the investment of major funding into the development of the Pachena Bay Campground.

Due to the fact that Anacla lies virtually at sea level and is essentially defenseless in the face of a tsunami, it eventually became necessary to reconsider the location of the present village site.

of these leaders.

Historically, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations are really a consolidation of several First Nations, all of which brought the wealth of family histories and their hereditary leadership that make up the present day Huu-ay-aht. It is worth mentioning that the Huu-ay-aht Ha'wiih have never relinquished their responsibilities to care for their respective Ha-houlth-lee (people, territories and natural resources).

Details of the actual reasons why Huu-ay-aht ancestors abandoned one village site in favour of another remains largely open to interpretation. Ancient Huu-ay-aht village sites include Kiixa, Kiix-in, Helby, and Huu-ay which is the village site after which the Huu-ay-aht take their name.

Both oral histories and historical records from Japan confirm that a tsunami completely wiped out the thriving village of Anacla in the year 1700 CE. This village site

In the 1990s this became the primary consideration when deciding where to relocate House of Huu-ay-aht as well as any new housing construction up on the hill across the Anacla River above the twenty meter sea level mark.

Rest assured that many changes are yet to come for the village of Anacla. Present plans call for a new subdivision and an administration building with a view of Pachena Beach to be located up in the new Anacla development area on the hill.

Meanwhile, community emergency preparedness is a high priority to the HFN Councils. This planning was accelerated in 2006 after the Tsunami in the Indian Ocean and will be outlined in an upcoming edition of the Uyaqhmis.



**Top:** Huu-ay-aht members attend the 2005 Aboriginal Day Sand Castle Competition at the Pachena River beach near the campground. In the back row from left to right are Steven Peters, Annette Charles, Johnson Ginger, Maggie Peters, Alec Frank and Alan Wozniak. In the middle row are Colleen Peters and George Johnson. Annette's son, Willy, is kneeling in the front row.

**Left:** Cedar dugout canoes, Chim-atak-sulth and Klee-klee-ha, in the river in the village of Analca. Chim-atak-sulth was given to the Huu-ay-aht by the Mowachaht and carved by Joe Martin. Klee-klee-ha was carved by Huu-ay-aht's own Ed Johnson Senior.

## DO YOU HAVE PHOTOS?

Huu-ay-aht members with memories and photos to share are asked to contact Uyaqhmis in June as we prepare a follow up article on Anacla as the community gets ready to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

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# LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Over the past year, the Uyaqhmis has provided monthly updates about the work of the Na-nanaiqsu Society. The Na-nanaiqsu Society provides direction to just about all of our Huu-ay-aht language and cultural recovery efforts.

This month's Language and Cultural report will take a look back at some of those initiatives that, like when pieces of a puzzle are connected, it can provide a better view of our overall progress.

## Language Mentorship

The Huu-ay-aht Mentorship program builds on the pioneering work done by Benson and Hilda Nookemis this past year. They were funded for a Mentorship program through the First Peoples Heritage and Culture Council (FPHLCC). Their work to produce a new fluent speaker of Huu-ay-aht really stands out. At Hilda's language proficiency evaluation, Nellie Dennis, lifetime speaker of Huu-ay-aht said, "... she sounds just like my grandmother speaking."

Benson and Hilda's mentorship work will be featured as a "Best Practice" at the BC First Nations Language Conference this July 5-6 in Vancouver.

Meanwhile, the HFN Mentorship program will be expanded and better adapted to the needs of Huu-ay-aht members in Port Alberni and Anacla. Thanks to the excellent language skills they learned from their parents Edward and Mabel Nookemus, the Nookemus brothers (Oscar, Clifford, Richard and Bruce) will be participating this September in language mentoring for several keen student speakers of Huu-ay-aht -- Angie Joe, Rose Charles and Maggie Peters.

Similarly in Port Alberni, plans are underway to develop a HFN Mentorship program will involve Benson, Hilda and Nellie Dennis as mentors to two keen student language speakers -- Robert Dennis Sr. and Rob Dennis Jr.

## Huu-ay-aht Paawats (Language Nest)

Over the past three years, our Paawats has been getting better and better. We have learned many lessons and have the confidence that the children and their parents are making real progress in learning their language. Language speakers Maria Newfield and Pat LeCoy together with Paawats Supervisor Kathy Waddell and Paawats Assistant Clara Clappis are working on a program that is producing results.

The challenging principle that they are working toward is *wik'-iich maamaa-malth'niqa* (No English). Each month, they get closer to that goal and find that they are using more and more Huu-ay-aht -- the benefits of which create a positive ripple throughout the entire community.

## Production of a Nuu-chah-nulth Language Curriculum, Teaching Manuals and Text Books.

The HFN is planning to assist in a broader Nuu-chah-nulth initiative to develop a two-year Program that will produce new fluent speakers of the Nuuchahnulth language. Central to the success of this is the development of Curriculum, Teachers manuals and Nuu-chah-nulth Language Text book. (See Below)

## Na-nanaiqsu Society - Publishing Our Research

Over the course of the past three years meeting, the Na-nanaiqsu have discussed and recorded valuable Huu-ay-aht knowledge and on important cultural themes. These include traditional customs around death practices and protocols related to the various purposes of the Potlatch Ceremony (e.g. *Emint'uultha* - baby belly button ceremony and *Eyst'uultha* -young woman's coming of age).

The Na-nanaiqsu Society will publish several books as part their efforts to promote Huu-ay-aht Language and culture.



**Above:** 22 May 2009, NCN Language Champions from ten communities gather at the North Island College to consider the development of a Nuu-chah-nulth Language Recovery and Training Program over the next two years.

## HUU-AY-AHT NA-NANAIQSU CALL FOR ACTION ON LANGUAGE RECOVERY

To recover our Nuu-chah-nulth languages, we must act now. We all know this. We don't want to fail. We will succeed. Let's encourage our young people to take on this challenge today.

This means we must support those young people. We will create a good professional training program for them. We will offer them careers here at home -- teaching our Nuu-chah-nulth languages in First Nations operated schools and programs.

Let's set up a Language Recovery Training Program, designed by Nuu-chah-nulth (NCN) for our young people now. Let's assure them that there will be careers in the future for them.

We will train them and we will hire them. Other employers such as the provincial school boards, colleges, universities, tourism industry and other services will also offer jobs to our bilingual young people as the most knowl-

edgeable.

We will offer them a good program of studies right here. They can attend North Island College in person, or participate by distance education in Ahousaht, Bamfield, Kyuquot and other places.

The program will meet our needs for training. The program will offer full university credits should the student wish to attend one like the Vancouver Island University, the University of Victoria or the University of British Columbia.

A team will develop a two year program in what it takes to succeed in language recovery. They will ask our Elder Speakers from all NCN Nations to work with the experts and deliver an intensive program of language fluency. To teach the program, they must have their curriculum, which would include textbooks. That is the plan of what to teach and when and how. We cannot expect our elders and

## THE GAMES ARE BACK!



The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council (NTC) is seeking an enthusiastic, highly motivated Nuu-chah-nulth member to oversee the presentation of Tlu-piich Games for the upcoming August 2<sup>nd</sup> long weekend. The Tlu-piich Games Coordinator will report to the NTC Executive Director and seek direction from an ad-hoc committee to produce revised, fun-filled and dynamic games that celebrate Nuu-chah-nulth sportsmanship and family values. The successful candidate will work between June 18<sup>th</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

produce revised, fun-filled and dynamic games that celebrate Nuu-chah-nulth sportsmanship and family values. The successful candidate will work between June 18<sup>th</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

## QUALIFICATIONS

### The ideal candidate will have:

- Proven record as a Team Leader with success in events management and volunteer coordination.
- A high school diploma/GED; post-secondary experience/degree desirable.
- Possess strong interpersonal skills and able to act with tact and diplomacy, meet deadlines, and maintain effective working relationships.
- Must be a self-starter and able to work independently.
- Knowledge of the history of the Tlu-piich Games would be an asset.

The deadline for applications is **June 12, 2009**. Send your cover letter and resume to:

Human Resource Manager  
Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 1383  
Port Alberni, BC  
V9Y 7M2

**Fax:** (250) 724-1907  
**E-Mail:** hr@nuuchahnulth.org

the consultants to write textbooks while they are teaching.

Here is what will work. A team of four experts, with the help from fluent speakers, will take two years to develop and write the textbook and set up a program here in Nuu-chah-nulth territory at North Island College. They will need two years to focus on writing the textbooks, to get it right about our language. During this time, they will set up the college courses and test the textbooks they are writing by delivering short pilot courses in the Nuu-chah-nulth communities.

Then they will teach many of our young people in an ongoing two year program at North Island College and by distance education. These students will graduate with pride in their own language and confidence in their ability to teach our languages.

Let's get to work. Let's support and fund the Nuu-chah-nulth Language Recovery Training Program.

*Chuu.  
Kleko, kleko!*

**NANIQSU PROFILE**  
**JULIA JOHNSON**

**A Family Tradition**

Julia Johnson (nee Edgar) grew up with her family in Tlahoose, a Ditidaht village on the Pacific Ocean very near the place where the ocean meets the entrance to Nitinahat Lake. Julia is one of the 12 children of Ralph Edgar and Effie Tait.

Julia remembers that growing up was always a struggle. "Our family used to work in the fields fruit fields of Washington State during the summers since I was ten years old and I was the boss of the kids from Tlahoose".

"A baloney sandwich on white bread was all we had for to eat in those days and our parents received all the payment for our fruit harvesting work. In turn, they would purchase provisions for the rest of the year with our collective summer earnings. Thinking about it now, it was really hard work under very difficult conditions -- sleeping on the floors in crowded cabins with fellow workers - quu-as and Mexicans together". Julia also remembers taking the ferry trip back to Vancouver Island after the fruit harvesting in Washington State. At that time, the BC Ferries strictly enforced a policy that Aboriginal People had to stay below in the car decks and were not permitted in the upstairs passenger area reserved for non-aboriginals.

Julia attended the Alberni Indian Residential School (AIRS) for nine years and worked without pay for her last two years repairing the younger children's clothing before finally getting out on her own in

1945. "I guess the fact that I was not paid was a bit like slavery," Julia remembers.

Soon after finishing her school experience, Julia married the [late] Huu-ay-aht member Robert Johnson (Iichaapshilth- -mitt) who was known all his life as a very successful fisherman. They took up residence lived in Kuuk-swiis and Chap-is and were to share some sixty years of marriage before he passed on this past December 2009.



Barbara, Julia and Karla Johnson.

Basket weaving has been a happy part of Mrs. Johnson's life since she can remember. As a young child, she recalls elderly ladies going out in canoes and traditional gathering baskets. They wore no shoes when they went out to gather the grass. She says that the ladies would be gone all day picking and drying the grass on the beach.

Julia remembers, "We would start in May, gathering cedar and roots. At the end of June we'd get swamp grass (chi-tuup). In July and August, we would gather the three cornered grass (tux-tux). In September we processed, dyed and stored the material. And then, we wove throughout the entire winter. We'd be sitting and laughing. We'd be like the old people. The old people use to be so happy weaving together".

There are so many stories of Robert and Julia's life together and space permits only a couple of these stories here. "Like Robert, I was a fisher as well because I always accompanied him when we went out fishing. Later when we had our children, ..."

*Continued on Page 6...*

**YOUTH PROFILE**  
**STEPHANIE WILLIAMS**

My name is Stephanie Williams and I am proud to be from the Huu-ay-aht First Nation. My mother is Yvonne Williams and my father is the late David Jack. On my mother's side my grandparents were the late Mike and Elsie Williams. On my father's side my grandparents were the late Mabel Dennis and Paul Jack.

I grew up in Nanaimo with my mom and siblings. I dropped out of school at a young age but decided to return as an adult. I moved to Vancouver when I was 19 years old, even though I didn't know anyone, because there are a variety of First Nations educational institutes here. I graduated with my grade twelve from the Native Education College (NEC) in 2001. NEC gave me the support to succeed and the confidence to move forward with my education so I applied to the Institute of Indigenous Government (IIG) and was accepted into the Associate of Arts in General Arts Program. I graduated from IIG with honours in 2004.

With the tremendous support of my family, I applied to the University of the Fraser Valley and was accepted into the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) - Child Welfare Specialization Program. I successfully completed my 1st year of university but decided to take some time off after my family suffered the severe loss of my little sister Kristine. I decided to work for a while and applied for a position at my former college IIG where I was hired as a development officer.

In July 2007 I was offered a position at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT), which is BC's Aboriginal

Public Post Secondary Institute, as the Admission & Registration Officer. As a member of enrolment services my duties include admitting & registering students, providing academic advice, tracking student success, corresponding with education coordinators and assisting with recruiting and events. Basically, I assist students from the moment they inquire about a post-secondary education at NVIT all the way through to graduation. I will continue to finish my bachelor degree part-time while I work at NVIT. Eventually, I would like to apply for my Masters Degree.



When I look back 10 years ago from today I was only 19 years old with a grade 7 education and I had no idea what I was doing with my life. I was on the canoe journey with the Klee-klee-ha and for the first time in my life I felt supremely proud to be First Nations and I believe it was this new found sense of cultural pride that gave me the self esteem to pursue not only my education but an environment that promoted my cultural identity.

If I were to provide any words of advice to students thinking about going to school I would say don't underestimate yourself. Make a goal and utilize family, friends, elders and education councilors.

Without the support of my family (especially my mother), my partner, my professors and the post-secondary education coordinators from the Huu-ay-aht First Nation and the Nuu-cha-nulth tribal council, I wouldn't have had the strength to make it as far as I have. When I was young my low self-esteem limited the goals I set for myself and now I see no limits in what I can achieve as a strong, educated, proud Huu-ay-aht woman. *Kleco, Kleco!*  
- Stephanie Williams

**HFN DTO CERTIFIED ADVANCED MANAGER**



Connie Waddell, 2009.

On 8 May 2009, Connie Waddell, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations' Director of Tribal Operations, graduated from the Advanced Management Program (AMP) at the University of British Columbia. A part of the Ch'nook Aboriginal Business Education department, the AMP is a comprehensive approach to managing businesses and integrating aboriginal values with business essentials in entrepreneurial situations. Just after her tenth anniversary with the HFN, Connie received her certificate of completion in the Longhouse at UBC.

When *Uyaqhmis* inquired about her experience, Connie says of her experience:

Balancing work, family and the course requirements over the eight month period of this training had presented more than a few challenges. I want to extend my gratitude to my family, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations and my course instructors for their ongoing support. I am pleased to share with achievement with all of you.

The Advanced Management Program is a course offered by UBC's Ch'nook Aboriginal Business Education department. For more information, please load up their website at <http://www.ch-nook.ubc.ca/>



**Your Paint, Floor & Moore Store.**

Meet with **Val Bellwood** for Home Decorating and In-Store Colour Consultations for your home decoration projects.

Ask Val about special discounts for customers travelling from outside the Port Alberni area!



**Alberni Colour Corner**

#1-4310 10th Avenue M-F: 8:00am to 5:00pm  
Port Alberni, BC Sat: 9:00am to 5:00pm

**Phone: (250)720-0030**

## No Ordinary Garden

In the world of mathematics, one plus one adds up to two. In the world of community development, where people are recovering their pride and self-sufficiency, a garden may be more than just a garden.

The Huu-ay-aht village of Anacla has been planning a community garden over the past year -- preparing the land, getting the seeds and organizing for the watering and weeding. All this work represents the hope of a good harvest and healthy food for the people who put their sweat into this Anacla community garden. There is little doubt that the garden will create a positive impression on the entire community as well as the summer tourists who pass by and see people working away on their garden.

The idea of developing community garden has been seriously percolating in Anacla for the past several years. We have seen the growing popularity of flower gardens – Clifford and Marie Nookemus's and Stella Peter's gardens stand out.

Many Anacla residents fondly remember the glory days of Zelta Clappis's remarkably productive vegetable garden when she lived in the village some years ago when she shared her famous potato harvest with the community.



With the encouragement of Maxine Nookemus, Stella Peters, and Rose Nookemis (just to name a few) the idea of a community garden has been gaining increasing support over the past year.

Fanning the flames of these gardening ideas has been HFN Maintenance Supervisor, Rodney Murray who gained lots of experience in horticulture having owned his own landscaping and plant growing business.

"The work on this garden has really taken off over the past two months," Rodney said. "We recently had a community meeting of those interested in planting their own sections of the fifty foot by fifty foot garden. Five families came together and the planting has already begun. It's a beautiful thing to see."

The Maintenance Department has worked to complete the fences and tilled the soil to get it ready for planting. By agreement, five families will share the half of the garden

space with the Paawats who will utilize their half to make sure that the produce of is shared with the larger community.

The potatoes (including some heritage seed potatoes have already been planted (see picture). Broccoli, beets, squash, tomatoes and peppers are next in line.

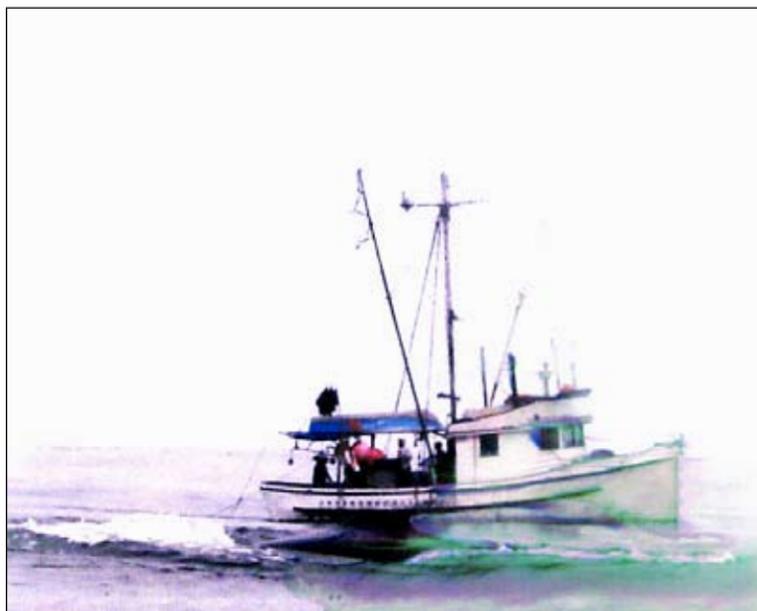
Fortunately, the Anacla Community Garden will be on the work plan a crew drawn from community members employed under a five month funded program called the Work Opportunities Program.

The work opportunities crew will also work on projects such as landscaping around the Pachena Bay Campground and at the entrance to the Village and soil erosion prevention while participating in valuable training that will include workplace, pest management and other related training such as Emergency Response Training.

In closing, Rodney Murray shared the following, "This Community Garden Project, when considered alongside the investment and training of Huu-ay-aht members, represents a step forward as the Huu-ay-aht move ever closer to self-sufficiency and self reliance."

*Chuu.*

*Continued from Page 5...*



(Ruby, Barbara and Robert) we often brought them along with us knowing that they would be safe with us at sea. We also knew that they would learn important fishing skills and how to handle the fish we caught".

Fishing on the Big Banks provided a good livelihood but became very difficult after the DFO shut down fishing on the Banks. At the time, there was little mention of the large scale, non-aboriginal industrial over-harvesting of the Banks but Julia remembers that at the time, it was commonly heard that the reason for the shutdown "was "because the Indians were fishing too much".

An important story of Johnson Family history recounts how a whale accompanied Robert's boat, the Portland Point, as he was heading to Ucluelet to get his boat's leaky plank checked out.

Adding to this remarkable event was that Robert was unaware that the whale was on the side of his boat when the photo was taken. It was more than a little surprising that Robert, nicknamed 'the whale man', had dreamt of this very incident well

before it happened. (Photo of Robert's boat accompanied by a whale - captured by an unknown sports fisherman who shared this picture with a very surprised Robert.)

Julia has always loved making baskets using designs in the tradition learned from her mother, Effie Edgar. Her baskets are treasured by Johnson family members and can be seen in the collections of several BC Museums. She taught her daughters to collect and prepare the red and yellow cedar bark and the grasses used in making fine baskets. Julia says that, "my mother said before she died that she was so happy that we learned how to weave. She was real proud of us that we learned how to prepare the material and weave it, I feel so good about that".

Julia's daughter, Barbara Johnson is proudly continuing that family tradition today. Julia has raised all her children and grandchildren with her keen sense of humour and with the following gentle wisdom: "God made us all the same, he gave you a mind. Always do positive, good things or else you can lose your way."



**Above:** Clockwise from top-left: Maxine Nookemus, Kathy Waddell, Patsy Lecoy, Violet Passmore and Lorraine Sampson.

**Below:** (Back L-R) Janet August, Anne Robinson, Janine Thompson, Pat Nookemus, Melanie Nookemus, Judy Johnson, Sarah Johnson and Martha Johnson. (Front L-R): Taeya August and Jenelle [Aboriginal Day in Anacla, 2005.]



# EVENTS CALENDAR, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## June 6, 2009

• HFN General Election -- remember to cast your vote!

## June 12, 2009

• Deadline for applications for the Tluupich Games Coordinator -- see the ad on pg. 4 for more details.

## June 16, 2009

• Community Information Session in Vancouver at the Holiday Inn (Downtown).

## June 17, 2009

• Community Information Session in Victoria at the Sandman Hotel.

## June 18, 2009

• Community Information Session in Nanaimo at the Coast Bastion Inn.

## June 21, 2009

• First Day of Summer  
• Aboriginal Day! Come celebrate Aboriginal Day with the Huu-ay-aht First Nations at Pachena Bay!

Parks Canada will be hosting celebra-

tions at the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve -- more specifically at the Wickannish Interpretive Centre near Ucluelet.

• Father's Day!

## June 23, 2009

• Community Information Session in Anacla at the House of Huu-ay-aht.

## June 24, 2009

• Community Information Session in Port Alberni at the Barclay Hotel.

## June 26, 2009

• Deadline for applications for the HFN Communications Department Internship position for Huu-ay-aht students.

• Deadline for applications for the HFN Maintenance Department Summer Student position in Anacla, BC.

## Every Sunday until July, 2009

• HFN Dance Practice at the Port Alberni Friendship Centre. 11:00am to 2:00pm.

Thinking of Self-Employment?  
Now is the Time by Entering the

### 2009 NEDC BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

**WHY ENTER?**

- Win up to \$5000 in Cash & Business Support Services
- Be your own Boss
- Challenge Yourself
- Learn new Concepts
- NEDC will help you in writing your Business Plan.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

- Aboriginal people within the Nuu-chah-nulth region and all Nuu-chah-nulth members of all Ages.
- Cannot have owned or started a business prior to the competition.
- Business Plan(s) must be written by the participant(s).

**SUPPORT & HELP**

- Business Planning Workshops will take place across the Nuu-chah-nulth Region to help you
- Our Competition Package has everything you need to write a business plan
- Business Plan must be submitted by the end of Labour Day, Tuesday Sept. 8, 2009

Put Your Logo Here  
Think it, Write it, Do it!

Call NEDC to Pre-Register and Receive Your Competition Package

**Nuu-chah-nulth**  
Economic Development Corporation  
A Community Based Corporation

For more information Contact Naomi Horvath, Jennifer Gullis or Colleen Ford @ NEDC.  
Email: [naomi@nedc.ca](mailto:naomi@nedc.ca), [jennifer@nedc.ca](mailto:jennifer@nedc.ca), or [colleen@nedc.ca](mailto:colleen@nedc.ca)  
Phone: (250) 723-3131, Toll-Free: 1-855-444-6322

For more information regarding the Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation (NEDC) Business Plan Competition, please contact the Huu-ay-aht Economic Development Manager, Larry Johnson.

Phone: (250)723-0100 Fax: (250)723-4646  
E-Mail: [larry.johnson@hfnforestry.ca](mailto:larry.johnson@hfnforestry.ca)

## Introducing New Employees

The newest members of the Huu-ay-aht Treaty Office Staff bring years of experience and commitment and the Uyaqhmis is pleased to share a little bit about them.

**Alan Legg C.G.A. (Ret.)** brings a wealth of accounting experience to his job as the Huu-ay-aht Financial Accountant. Born in Toronto, he moved to Western Canada as a child and went on to train as an accountant during the 1970s. He has worked in the private automotive and mining sectors and his career has taken him across Canada, Africa and Latin America.

This should not be too surprising given that Alan was raised in an Armed Forces family and traveled all across Canada and spent four years in France growing up. "I went to thirteen different schools in thirteen years," Alan explained.

"Working with the Huu-ay-aht is great," he says. "I get to work with good team of people who are building on the ongoing Huu-ay-aht record of achievement of maintaining the financial health of the Nation."

Colleen Stephens started as the

new Financial Accounting Clerk in August 2008. She spent her childhood years within Huu-ay-aht traditional territories, growing up in the logging community of Franklin River.

"I treasure my memories of growing up in Franklin River, a place that fifty families once called 'home.' We had everything a family could want: a commissary, a recreation centre that later included a swimming pool. We also had regular showing of films at the Rec. Centre."



Colleen added that she would have liked to return one day to Franklin. Sadly, there is scarcely a hint of the community that once thrived there.

"I love working with the Huu-ay-aht," Colleen says. "It

represents a different challenge from my former work as a bookkeeper for a successful Port Alberni Hotel and Restaurant. The work is less stressful and now I have the great opportunity to learn the Huu-ay-aht language with the rest of the Treaty Office staff."

The Huu-ay-aht community is pleased to extend our traditional warm welcome to our newest Treaty Office Staff. *Chuu.*

## Congratulations to the Huu-ay-aht Students set to Graduate this month!

### CATERING BIDS IN ANACLA FOR JUNE 23

Dinner catering for approximately sixty-five people on Tuesday, June 23 at the House of Huu-ay-aht. Please send your bid, menu and a copy of your FoodSafe certificate to <[crystal.macey@shawcable.com](mailto:crystal.macey@shawcable.com)> or drop it off at either the Administration Office in Anacla or the Treaty Office in Port Alberni.

**Deadline for bids is Friday, June 12.**

## EPIC CUSTOM KITCHENS & MILLWORK



Epic Custom Kitchens & Millwork is a native owned business located in Courtenay, BC. We manufacture kitchen and bathroom cabinets and install them all over Vancouver Island. We also have the ability to incorporate native designs from West Coast Artists to personalize your order. For more information, contact us at:

**Mercy & Glenn Woiwod**  
Shop: (250) 897-3504  
Home/Fax: (250) 897-3502  
E-mail: [epiccustomkitchens@shaw.ca](mailto:epiccustomkitchens@shaw.ca)

## Kamatap-ḥak hiṭ -ii?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS IS?

ANSWER: Anaktla (Anacla)

# THE BACK PAGE

## THE CONCEPT OF QUU?AS - PART ONE

An important word in the Nuu-chah-nulth language is quu?as. West Coast peoples use this word to refer to people like themselves. In written form it is most prominently seen in an anglicized way, for example in ads for the “Kuu-us Crisis Line.”

In modern Nuu-chah-nulth English, quu?as is mainly used synonymously with “First Nation” like e.g. asking about somebody’s last name “Is this a quu?as name?” But depending on the point of view, the word quu?as in the Nuu-chah-nulth language (Quuqu?aca) has a much wider range of meanings, and that is what we would like to explore in this two-part essay.

We are going to suggest some shades of meaning for this word quu?as, which don’t all apply in every situation. We invite you, the reader, to send us your ideas about the many uses of this word.

1. Quu?as refers to anything human as opposed to non-human. No animal or beings of the spirit world can be referred to as quu?as.

So, quu?as is mainly “earthly human being”. Anything pertaining to human life or the human species is called quu?actup “of human origin, mankind”.

2. Quu?as refers to a fully grown person, as opposed to a child. Connected to this use of quu?as is the word qu?iiciik “growing up” which literally means “becoming a complete person”.

3. Sometimes the word quu?as focusses on nationality, referring to someone of First Nations descent, or in a narrower sense as somebody of Nuu-chah-nulth descent. From here we get Quuqu?aca or the “Nuu-chah-nulth language” which literally means “doing or speaking like real people” (that is, people you can understand).

We mentioned quu?actup as “of human origin”, but in this narrow sense here it can mean “of First Nations origin”, like when you refer to craft products. “Of Euro-Canadian origin” would in contrast be mama?niqštup.

Your indigenous name is referred to as quu?aciic ?imtii, and you can introduce yourself by saying ?U?uk”ah quu?aciic ?imtii XY, “My quu?as name is XY”.

4. Quu?as sometimes means “man”, even though a woman can also be a quu?as. If you want to emphasize the sex of a person talked about, you would say ?akup for “man” and ?uucsma for “woman”.

5. Sometimes, the word quu?as has the connotation of “a good person”. So these are some points of view. They don’t all apply all the time. They depend on the situation.

We would like to invite fluent speakers of the HUU-ay-aht language, as well as other dialects of Nuu-chah-nulth, to send in comments about these observations. And if you are not fluent yourself, but you have heard the word quu?as used in a different way, let us know. Next Time: quu?aas, qutqu?as, and quu?asmih.

## VOCABULARY

quu?as	earthly human being
quu?actup	1. of human origin, mankind 2. of First Nations origin
qu?iiciik	growing up
Quuqu?aca	Nuu-chah-nulth language
mama?niqštup	of Euro-Canadian origin
quu?aciic ?imtii	one’s quu?as name
?akup	male person, man
?uucsma	woman

?U?uk”ah quu?aciic ?imtii (XY).  
My quu?as name is (XY).

- Terry Klokeid, PhD and Henry Kammler, PhD.



HFN Maintenance worker **Bruce Nookemus** is not only fluent in our HUU-ay-aht language but takes pride in his work keeping the Village of Anacla beautiful. *Kleko, kleko!*



If you do not open the door,  
I will cough and you'll get sick.

## HUU-AY-AHT TREATY OFFICE

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Port Alberni, British Columbia  
V9Y 4E4  
Phone: (250) 723-0100 Fax: (250) 723-4646  
E-Mail: huuayahttreaty@shawcable.com

## HUU-AY-AHT BAND OFFICE

Mailing Address: Box 70  
Bamfield, British Columbia  
VOR 1B0  
Phone: (250) 728-3414 Toll-Free: 1-888-644-4555  
Fax: (250) 728-1222 E-Mail: huuayaht@pachena.ca

## SUBMISSIONS, QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Contact the HUU-ay-aht Communications Department if you have a question or want an electronic copy: [hfn.communications@gmail.com](mailto:hfn.communications@gmail.com)

## HUU-AY-AHT WEBSITE

For new articles, job postings, updated events calendar, and an archive of the digital version of the newsletter. <[www.huuayaht.org](http://www.huuayaht.org)>

## HUU-AY-AHT YOUTUBE CHANNEL

For videos of HUU-ay-aht people, places and special events, subscribe today! <[www.youtube.com/user/HFNCommunications](http://www.youtube.com/user/HFNCommunications)>