Huu-ay-aht building roads near Sarita: Andy Clappis shows how it’s done. Photo courtesy of Huu-ay-aht First Nation Forestry Department.

Kamatap-ḥak hił-ii?
DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS IS?

Hint: Home to some of the largest spruce support beams on Vancouver Island.

See Page 7 for Answer...

TRAINING, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

See Page 3...

Table of Contents
1. The Front Page
2. Council and Implementation News
3. Education, Training and Employment
4. Culture & Language
5. Naniqsu & Youth
6. Community News
7. Announcements
8. The Back Page

Corrections: In the July/August issue (page 6), it was incorrectly stated that Chunuchamahaltmmi (Ki-ke-in) is Ha’wilth of the Hupacasath First Nation; he is Ha’wilth of the Kyuquot First Nation. Page 10: Daisy Jack is pictured in the 1930s group picture, third from left in the front row. Martha Coones, Daisy’s mother, is pictured in the photo at top right, taken at the turn of the 20th century. Martha married Jackson Jack. Daisy married Johnson Ginger Sr. Photos were submitted by Johnson Ginger.
SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MESSAGE

IT'S OUR TIME

The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Chief & Council would like to extend their congratulations to A-in-chut (Shawn Atleo). On July 22nd and 23rd, the Assembly of First Nations held a vote to elect a new National Chief in Calgary, Alberta. After the first vote, only two candidates remained: Perry Bellegarde of Saskatchewan and our own Shawn A-in-chut Atleo from the Ahousaht First Nation. Chiefs from Canada’s First Nations, Huu-ay-aht Chief-Councillor Robert Dennis among them, cast their votes a staggering eight times over more than fourteen hours.

Perry Bellegarde withdrew after the eighth ballot where Shawn had won fifty-eight percent, just two points short of winning. On the morning of July 23rd, A-in-chut gave his victory speech.

LAND PURCHASE

The Huu-ay-aht First Nations recently purchased three parcels of land in the Sarita watershed. Fitting with the plan outlined during the Huu-ay-aht Economic Summit in Port Alberni. The previous HFN Council was one of the first to give Shawn Atleo, Nook-miis (Ed Johnson) and Qwiimaqcik (Robert Dennis Senior) pictured earlier this year at the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Chief & Council.

HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS
Lands & Nisma Committee
SEPTEMBER 2009 UPDATE

The Lands and Nisma (Resources) Committee continues to forge ahead with the great responsibility of recommending policies and legislation regarding Nisma (“Lands”). With Effective Date on the horizon it is time to take a closer look at our Treaty Settlement Lands (TSL) and assess what we want done and what we don’t want done in our territory.

First steps in this journey required that we follow up on the Lands and Nisma Community TSL tour of June 2nd and 3rd, 2009. The Committee decided to take a TSL Foreshore tour on July 30th to get a better look at the new HFN lands and to consider what will and will not be permitted on our shores.

We began our tour at the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre onboard the M.V. Barkley Star. After visiting Chap’is & Aa-at-sus-yis (across the inlet), we continued through the Trevor Channel making stops at

Huu-ii (Diana Island), Ca-atuu’isi, Copper Isle, and Nuumakimiyis.

Along the way we saw the log sort and the Poert Nook Marina. We finished our tour by returning back around Imperial Channel and made one last stop at Cape Beale before returning to Bamfield.

Following this tour, the Council entrusted the Lands and Nisma Committee with the responsibility to make decisions on what uses are permitted or prohibited in Huu-ay-aht Treaty Settlement Land Foreshore.

Accompanying the Committee on this tour were HFN legal counsel Robert Botterell, Land Title consultant Dianne Cragg and Assistant to Implementation Committees Crystal Macey.

Councillor Robert Dennis Junior chairs the Lands Committee. Committee members include Andy Clappis, Johnson Ginger, Derek Peters, Stella Peters and Irene Williams.

Above: The Foreshore at Nuumakimiyis at the entrance to Sarita Bay.

Above L-R: Ya-thlua (Jeff Cook), Ben Clappis, Naasiismis (Derek Peters), A-in-chut (Shawn Atleo), Nook-miis (Ed Johnson) and Qwiimaqcik (Robert Dennis Senior) pictured earlier this year at the Huu-ay-aht Economic Summit in Port Alberni. The previous HFN Council was one of the first to give Shawn Atleo its support in his (successful) bid to become National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations.
NEW CHALLENGES, NEW TRAINING, NEW EMPLOYMENT FOR HUU-AY-AHT

Ts‘chah-chis-tulth (Andy Clapps) Takes Road Builder Training Course

On August 17th Andy Clapps started a 16-week Road Builder Training Course. The Huu-ay-aht Forest Products Company will employ him. The training course permits “hands on, practical experience” in operating a mid-sized Volvo excavator and the training incorporates a series of twenty learning modules. These modules focus on matters of safety, principles of building environmentally sound roads, provincial regulation, reading and understanding engineering plans, and, of course, the technical mechanical training on the operation of road building equipment.

Andy’s training is under the direct supervision of Brent Sundquist, contracted by the Huu-ay-aht Forest Products to supervise the road building as well as delivering the theoretical and practical components of this training course.

One of the many prerequisites for success in this position is a fairly obvious and accessible one: possession of a valid BC Driver’s License. While some colleges and trade schools offer courses in the operation of heavy machinery, the combination of hands-on experience and theoretical training offers the best chance for success for Andy and the HFN Forest Products Company.

HUU-AY-AHT MEMBERS GRADUATE FROM BLADERUNNERS PROGRAM

Six Huu-ay-aht community members have successfully graduated from the BladeRunners Program in 2008 and 2009. Craig Charleson, Jay Nookemus, Brian Peters and Steven Peters completed the program in 2008 and Holly and Heather Johnson graduated in 2009.

The program is funded through the Huu-chah-nulth Education Training Program (NETP) under the coordination of Rob Odale (Port Alberni) and April Charleson (Tofino). The six-month program includes a twelve-week course in construction work site safety, First Aid Level 1, WHMIS, and the safe operation of tools. The graduates then participate in a three-month workplace placement for entry level construction employment.

Almost all of the graduates of the program are presently employed in the construction and service industries.

Huu-ay-aht First Nation is making plans to work with the NETP in helping to organize a January 2010 BladeRunners Program that would make it possible for up to twelve Huu-ay-aht participants to take this valuable training. This training will increase the employability of Huu-ay-aht workers who may be interested in construction opportunities as the Nation undertakes major capital projects planned to start in 2010.

HUU-AY-AHT WORK OPPORTUNITY CREW UPDATE

The Huu-ay-aht Work Opportunity Crew continues to make headway on many Anacla beautification projects like the Community Garden, flower beds and landscaping at the entrance to Anacla, signs for the Campground and the Health Clinic, and completing the First Bridge Trail for emergency use. Participants in the Work Opportunity Crew are taking part in a two-day First Aid Level 1 certification training this fall. Additional skills training is planned prior to the work program winding down at the end of November.

Those presently employed on the Work Opportunities Program may want to take advantage of a BladeRunners Program proposed for this January or February by the Nuu-chah-nulth Education Training Program with support from the Huu-ay-aht First Nation.

HUU-AY-AHT STUDENTS WORK HARD AND SUCCEED

Congratulations to Natasha Ginger (pictured at right) who recently received her Bachelor of Education degree from UBC. In June, she delivered a message of gratitude to the HFN and the NTC and offered encouragement to the 2009 graduates at their ceremony, reminding them that their mission is to work together and help one another to fulfill their dreams.

Andrew Frank Cook

November 25, 1958 – August 2, 2009
Andrew Cook’s life was tragically cut short in the early hours of August 2, 2009. He was the victim of a hit and run accident along the Bamfield road.
Andrew held a vital position in the cultural and social life of the Anacla community and the entire Huu-ay-aht community is grieving this tremendous loss. He will be remembered as a person with a great joy for life with a ready joke, laugh or a helping hand when there was work to be done.
Huu-ay-aht First Nation biologist Stefan Ochman admits it is difficult to put into words what this tragic loss means to him personally as well as to the entire community. Stefan shared that “Andrew’s nickname was ‘Mad’. He was a best friend to me as well as to many others and will be deeply missed. He brought so many personal skills, much joy and positive energy to the workplace.”
Andrew’s contribution to the Huu-ay-aht Fisheries Program included extensive work on many projects including restoration of the Sarita River, swift water fish counting, the construction of the Suwag fish harchecy, and fish food distribution. Harder to measure is the number of times that Andrew lent a hand to residents of Anacla when they needed someone to count on for tasks large or small.
On August 10th, a family service was held for Andrew at the Chapel of Memories followed by his burial at the cemetery in Sarita. All Huu-ay-aht extend deepest condolences and join with the Cook family in their sorrow.

GETTING READY FOR NEW EMPLOYMENT

Huu-ay-aht members are increasingly seeing the value of getting skills training that can lead to good jobs and incomes. As the implementation date of the Maa-nulth Agreement nears (Fall, 2010), the commitment continues to work towards bringing more opportunities and better livelihoods for Huu-ay-aht members.
HFN members may be wondering what sorts of employment openings will arise as the Nation moves towards implementing the Treaty. HFN Treaty Implementation Committees (TICs) are presently outlining plans that will require new employment positions in the areas of Governance, Forestry, Fisheries, Finance, Communications and Administration. Also, the HFN is exploring mentorship programs for qualified trainees. This information will be communicated as soon as it becomes available through the HFN Uyahmis newspaper and through our HFN website (www.huuay-aht.org). Meanwhile, it is fair to say that Huu-ay-aht membership will be only one of the factors considered when the HFN hiring committee considers new employees. The candidate must be able to demonstrate the potential combination of workplace skills, training and previous experience to get the job done.

For many families, September means “back to school.” It is also a great time for students and parents to make resolutions and commitments to learn the Huu-ay-aht language. Getting a BC Driver’s License is also a great time for students and parents to make resolutions and offered encouragement to the 2009 graduates at their ceremony, reminding them that their mission is to work together and help one another to fulfill their dreams.

In an attempt to bring some sense of closure or understanding about the tragic loss of Andrew Cook, his family members joined the RCMP at a press conference at the Port Alberni Detachment on Monday, August 10th. Staff Sergeant Lee Omlusik and the Cook family issued an appeal to the public to come forward with any information they may have to assist in the investigation. If anyone has any information about this incident or saw any vehicles on the Bamfield-Anacla Road between midnight and 6:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 2nd, they are requested to contact the RCMP or CRIMESTOPPERS at 1-800-222-8477.

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CULTURE AND LANGUAGE

INTRODUCING DR. TOSHIHIDE NAKAYAMA, PhD

Toshihide (Toshi) Nakayama is a Tokyo-based linguist studying the Nuu-chah-nulth culture and language (primarily the Ahousaht dialect) since 1991. Since then he has made more than fifteen summertime visits to Vancouver Island to meet with his remarkable teachers, the late George Louie and the late Caroline Little.

These very knowledgeable people made it possible for Toshi to gather words and examples that have helped him to figure out how the Nuu-chah-nulth language works. Also, they generously shared traditional stories and personal accounts of customs that have been gathered and published in a Japanese, English and Nuu-chah-nulth book with accompanying audio CD recordings.

When interviewed by Uyaqmís, Toshi said that over the past years he would have liked to contribute to your important language recovery efforts, in whatever ways, large or small.

"I see many good things that are happening in the Huu-ay-aht language programs and in the Huu-ay-aht community", Toshi said. "I am now ready to start in on some tasks where I could be helpful in the area of language recovery and revitalization.

Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to contribute to your important language recovery efforts, in whatever ways, large or small.

Dennis Family Naming Potlatch

Marge White is pleased to announce that the Dennis Family Naming Potlatch will be held at Maht Msah in Port Alberni on Saturday, October 24th, 2009 beginning with a lunch at noon.

Marge, together with siblings Clarence Dennis, Simon Dennis, Robert Dennis Sr. and Myrtle Williams, will name all of their children and grandchildren. The Naming Potlatch will also include the children of their late brother David Dennis. All of the siblings are survivors of the Alberni Residential School. The family was separated as children when they lost their mother.

This Potlatch will unify family and will help them to reclaim their shared identity, to know who their family members are, and to practice culture denied them since residential school days. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Bring your drums, dancers and singers to join in and to be a part of this cultural event. Photo courtesy of Sarah Dennis.

NA-NANIIQSU MEETING

The Huu-ay-aht Na-naniiqsu (Grandparents) Cultural Society [HN(G)CS] met on August 12th to take care of regular society business and consider two proposals that will make a major contribution to the recovery of Huu-ay-aht Language and Culture.

1) A proposal submitted by Terry Klokeid and Ron Hamilton for the Huu-ay-aht Na-naniiqsu Society to oversee the development of a publishing house that would publish books, materials, CDs and DVDs for language and culture recovery for all Nuu-chah-nulth, with a long term commitment and emphasis on serving Huu-ay-aht language and culture efforts.

The Na-naniiqsu Society reviewed samples of existing First Nations publications. Society members also considered reasons for wanting to publish our own works and examined several examples on project themes that we may want to publish. We also considered the target audience for such publications and how we can make materials both attractive and affordable for them. As an ongoing project, [HN(G)CS] members agreed to continue to update and discuss this project at the next Na-naniiqsu meeting slated for Friday, September 11th.

2) To utilize Huu-ay-aht energies to assure a successful gathering of Language Leaders at the Nuu-chah-nulth Language Symposium 2009.

The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Language Leaders are aware that the challenge of recovering the Nuu-chah-nulth language is too large a task for any one Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation. Together with other Nuu-chah-nulth Language Leaders, the Huu-ay-aht are committing energy to promote the development of a course to upgrade the knowledge and skills of existing teachers and mentors, and train and hire new teachers who are fluent in the language, knowledgeable about the culture, and well-trained as educators. These individuals will teach in communities, not just in schools and pre-schools, and will offer classes for adults and families.

The purpose is to bring together invited Language Leaders to come together and share.

Who should attend?

• All who are interested in helping young people to learn and teach.
• All people who are interested in becoming teachers of our language.
• All who in the past or present have been involved in a language project.
• All who have an interest in sharing cultural knowledge through our language are invited.

This will be a working meeting. Participants will be asked to describe active language programs that they are involved in and what their dreams and goals are for the future. We will discuss the ways to achieve certification of knowledgeable people who teach our language. We will discuss what kind of support is needed for future teachers of our language.

The Nuu-chah-nulth Language Symposium 2009 will be held September 18th -19th, at North Island College in Port Alberni. Call Denny Durocher (250-723-0100) or Terry Klokeid (250-653-4099, email klokeid@victoria.tc.ca) for more information or to register for the Symposium.

Chatwin Engineering

Based on Vancouver Island, Chatwin Engineering specializes in meeting the design, planning and construction challenges of the Pacific West Coast. Our company has proudly worked alongside First Nations since 1982. Chatwin Engineering offers services in civil engineering, building sciences and environmental studies relating to civil and other construction projects. We have experience in designing and managing the construction of infrastructure projects such as water treatment systems as well as experience in conducting environmental impact assessments on such projects. Please see our new website for more information.

www.chatwinengineering.com

HUU-AY-AHT UYAQMIS  ISSUE 13  SEPTEMBER  2009 4
Agnes Sport (nee Lucas) was born in 1933 at Rivers Inlet to parents Thomas Lucas (Hesquiaht) and Katherine Carly (Tlo-qui-aht). Her father worked on a seine boat and her mother worked during the salmon season at the cannery at Rivers Inlet, which cuts about 50 km into the Central Coast of British Columbia, just north of the tip of Vancouver Island.

At the age of nine, Agnes went on to spend seven years at the Catholic run Christie Residential School on Meares Island. Her memories of the school are mixed because while she found some encouragement of her love of learning, her sister's experiences were very unhappy. To this day she remembers her father as a spiritual man and Agnes still finds some comfort in her religious beliefs. At age sixteen, Agnes went to live with family members in Hot Springs Cove in Hesquiaht territory. Later, she met and eventually married Willie Sport (Huu-ay-aht).

Agnes has many fond memories of living in Grappler, Kooks-wiis and Sarita Bay where the Huu-ay-aht always made her feel welcome. She kept busy maintaining a home and life that was filled with good memories. These included fishing perch and trout during the winter months and harvesting berries during the summer. After separating from Willie in 1961, Agnes went on to live in Port Alberni. Her love of plants has stayed with her throughout her life and she still cultivates beautiful roses and other flowers in her home garden in Port Alberni.

Agnes's children include Charlie Sport, Eileen Sport, Paul Sport, Trevor Olsen, Bill Sport, and the late Patrick Ambrose. She has grandchildren living in the Vancouver area and in Duncan. She is always glad to see her grandchildren when they come to visit.

Agnes continues to be a valued member of the Huu-ay-aht community and is pleased to attend Huu-ay-aht potlatches and community dinners. Agnes says, “One thing about the Huu-ay-aht is that they always remember their Na-naniiqsu and make sure that they get their food fish first.”

Agnes and her younger sister Susan both married Huu-ay-aht brothers. She loves the time she spends together with Susan speaking Huu-ay-aht. She says that since that they both married Huu-ay-aht, the Hesquiaht dialect they grew up speaking is now filled with Huu-ay-aht dialect when they get together to talk.

Agnes keeps busy with activities organized through the Port Alberni Friendship Centre and they have traveled to visit elders in Duncan and are planning a trip soon to visit the Elder’s group in Campbell River. When asked for what advice she has for her grandchildren and other young people coming up she offered without any hesitation, “Keep away from drinking and drugs and make time to listen to your Na-naniiqsu (grandparents)”.

Christopher Williams has just turned fourteen and he already has a fairly clear idea of what he wants to do with his life. He admits that he is interested in community well being and safety and is trying on the idea of one day serving the community as a policeman.

Like many young people of his age, Christopher participates in a full calendar of organized sports. What stands out is his sense of sportsmanship and cooperation that he brings to these sports. Among his sports interests are: soccer, basketball, hockey and T-kwon-do, where he has earned a yellow belt.

When asked about sports heroes, Christopher shared his admiration of hockey player, Sydney Crosby but any other well known sports heroes have yet to make a blip on his sports radar. “I guess I would just rather be playing these sports than watching them on TV or on Video Games”, he says.

“I don’t like the violence that can be seen in the senior levels of hockey”, says Christopher. “My first interest in sports is to have fun, not hurting opponents”.

Christopher participated in the Ua-a-thluk Summer Science Camp in Anacla this past July where he was able to combine learning both science and culture. Huu-ay-aht Naniquq Nellie Dennis was one of the resource people for this program. Nellie shared her knowledge of harvesting traditional food and berries and also shared her stories about chores children used to do at Chap-is like fetching bucket loads of household water in little chuputs (dugout canoes).

When still a child, Christopher was given an important and significant name from his great grandfather Alex Williams – Wa-hay-aa-chuck (“always on the ocean”). Christopher understands the responsibility that comes with the honour of having this name and says that learning more about his family and his culture is a very important part of his life. He has also learned how to be helpful at potlatches by setting up and taking down tables, serving food and cleaning up. He is particularly interested in taking Huu-ay-aht language lessons when they are offered in Port Alberni.

While he does well in all his school subjects, Christopher admits that math and science are his favourite subjects. He says that he also enjoyed dissecting a cow’s eyeball and “wasn’t grossed out at all”.

Christopher is the son of Molly Clappis (daughter of Ben & Clara Clappis) and the late Perry Williams, (son of the late Victor Williams and Marie Barney). Together with step-dad Louie Johnson, step-sisters Kierra and Brooke, stepbrother Damien and younger brother Dorian, Christopher is really looking forward to welcoming a new brother or sister in January.
**Cook-Speck Wedding in Anacla**

On August 1, 2009, the Cook family hosted a wedding for their daughter, Naa-naat-aks (Hazel), who married Donald Speck of Alert Bay in a traditional Huu-ay-aht ceremony at the beautiful beach in Anacla.

Tradition requires that the groom and his entourage arrive in canoes, prepared to meet a series of challenges that demonstrate the suitability of the groom and the assurances of his family. Together, they must satisfy beyond any doubt that the bride will continue to enjoy the respect, protection and love which she has been given as a cherished member of her own family.

Before the Namgis (Alert Bay) delegation were allowed to leave their canoes, they were asked to wait on the beach across the river, where they built a fire and performed traditional songs and dances that could be heard and seen from the Huu-ay-aht side of the river. After more that an hour, they were signaled to re-approach the Huu-ay-aht village side of the beach to make representation as to who they were and the purpose of their visit. They were met first by the women of the Tyee Haa-wilh, whose stewardship responsibilities of Anacla beach include protocol related to ceremonies such as the reception of dignitaries and visitors to the beach. Their delegation included three traditional chiefs, Donald Svanvik, George Speck, Calvin Hunt and their spokesman, Wendledi Speck. Their spokesman explained how they are all related to the groom, Donald Speck, and shared their intentions to bring Naa-naat-aks home to live as the wife of Donald and as an esteemed part of the Alert Bay Community.

Next, they made their representations to the Hereditary Chiefs of the Huu-ay-aht people: Naasissim, Ya-thluu, Andy Clappis, Darlene Nookemis, and Hapinyuk. They were joined by Sara Dennis, who holds a Kuyuquot seat, and Alfred Fred, a family member from Tsesaltah.

The groom and his delegation were then challenged to demonstrate their physical prowess, problem solving skills and intelligence in completing several traditional Huu-ay-aht tupatsi (tests of skills). Tasks included retrieving feathers from across the river within a time limit, retrieving feathers from the top of a fifteen-foot plank, and lifting and carrying a heavy anchor stone. The various challenges were met by Donald Speck (swimming), Jonathan Henderson (climbed pole), and Andy Speck (carried anchor stone).

Finally, upon completion of these tupatsi tasks, the guests were challenged to chant the bride’s name repeatedly until, joined by the groom, they became loud enough to be heard by the bride, who was hidden in a nearby beach tent – “Naa-naat-aks, we love you!”

Perhaps the most emotional part of the ceremony was when women, family and friends of the bride sought specific assurances from the groom’s family on how they would welcome, support and protect Naa-naat-aks and her child, Daniel, in the remote community of Alert Bay. The visiting chiefs, esteemed grandparents and the women of the Speck family guaranteed their safety and the support of the entire community for the immediate future and for always.

The Cook family was satisfied with what they heard from the groom and his family, particularly their heartfelt demonstration of sincerity and good will. Next, Jack and Deborah Cook, the bride’s parents, crossed over the line separating the Huu-ay-aht from their Namgis guests. They touched a drum that was part of pile of neatly stacked gifts (flour, sugar and canned fish) brought to the beach as a traditional show of good faith. So, with great emotion and dignity, this simple gesture demonstrated that the bride’s family accepted their marriage offer. The bride was brought forward from her tent accompanied by her brother Herb and nephew Fredrick, who were painted and dressed traditionally. It was then that Donald and his family were welcomed to embrace their new Huu-ay-aht relations.

The family invited all present to join them for a seafood wedding feast at the House of Huu-ay-aht where guests were treated to singing and dancing late into the evening.

**Family and guests pictured above:** framed photo of Deborah Cook, Sven Speck, Donald Speck, baby Daniel Speck, Hazel Speck, Jack Coook, baby Haley Cook, Susan Cook and Herb Cook.

The Cook family would like to thank all those who helped out in ways large and small and made this special day possible. A list follows, provided by the family, with apologies in advance for any name unintentionally omitted: the Huu-ay-aht beach keepers (Peters family) for permitting the use of the beach for a traditional wedding, Her and the women who asked questions, Al and June Fred and girls, Berry Halverson, Mike Lambert, John Jack, Crystal Macey, Ed Johnson Jr., Benson and Hilda Nookemis, Kimberly Touchie, Jeffery and Laverne Cook, Marilyn Touchie, Sherrin Cook, Frederick Cook, Cory and Tammy Howard, Tom and Kathy (and sister Susan) Happmosk, Marie Nookemis, Richard Nookemis, Bill Frank, Leslie Cook, James Nookemis, Ryan & Collin Williams, Vince & Cory Jr. Howard, Edward Johnson (III), Kwisacht, and Ron Hamilton.
**Events Calendar**

**September 2nd**

**September 7th**
- Labour Day. HFN and NTC offices closed.

**September 11th**
- Huu-ay-aht Na-naniiqsu (Grandparents) Cultural Society meeting in Port Alberni at the Huu-ay-aht Treaty Office starting at 10:00am and ending around 4:00pm.

**September 18th - 19th**
- The Nuu-chah-nulth Language Symposium 2009 at North Island College in Port Alberni. Call Denny Durocher (250-723-0100) or Terry Klokeid (250-653-4099, e-mail klokeid@victoria.tc.ca) for more information or to register for the Symposium.

**September 19th**
- Huu-ay-aht First Nation Annual General Meeting, 10 a.m. at the House of Huu-ay-aht.

**September 21st**
- Day 1 of Maa-nulth Treaty Society Legislation Project in Nanaimo at the Coast Bastion Inn.

**September 22nd**
- Huu-ay-aht Chief & Council Meeting, location to be determined.
- Day 2 of Maa-nulth Treaty Society Legislation Project in Nanaimo at the Coast Bastion Inn.

**September 23rd**
- Day 3 of Maa-nulth Treaty Society Legislation Project in Nanaimo at the Coast Bastion Inn.

**September 26th**
- Touchie Family dinner to reconnect with extended family. Doors open 2 p.m., dinner at 5 p.m. at the Tsow-Tum Le Lum Treatment Centre on Nanoose Bay I.R. Please bring photos and candles.

For more information contact Geraldine Touchie at 250-266-0953 or e-mail touchie.geri@live.ca

**September 29th**
- Day 1 of the Annual General Meeting of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council in Port Alberni at the Maht Mahs Gymnasium. Starts at 9:00am.

**September 30th**
- Day 2 of the Annual General Meeting of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council in Port Alberni at the Maht Mahs Gymnasium. Starts at 9:00am.

**October 24th**
- Dennis Family Potlatch, noon at Maht Mahs (see article on page 4).

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**Kamatap–hak hit -ii?**

**Do you know where this is?**

**Answer:** The House of Huu-ay-aht

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**Consequences to the Family of DOREEN RAY-ArTHUR**

**(nee Clappis)**

**October 26, 1948 - August 14, 2009**

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**SUMMER JOY LITTLE**

born July 11th to Laura Johnson & Trevor Little

---

**Anthony Jordan Rivers**

born August 12th to Candice Clappis and Darren Rivers

---

**MASON JACK TAYLOR**

born August 16th to Michelle Mickey and Daniel Jack

---

**DIANE JEREMIAH**

born August 18th to Katherine Frank and Phillip Dennis
Greeting people with ?uh-?a?k-hak? (Is that you?) Part I

Henry Kammler
Terry J. Klokeid

Looking at the words we use to greet people shows how you just can’t translate between languages. The English word “hello” has no direct equivalent in Nuu-chah-nulth, which is not surprising. The word “hello” and similar words in other European languages came into common use as greetings only after the invention of the telephone in the 1870s. When someone answered the phone, they would not have known who they were speaking to, and so an impersonal greeting was required.

In traditional Nuu-chah-nulth culture there was no such anonymity. When you met someone, you generally knew them, and even somebody that you didn’t know personally would not be a stranger, because you would know them indirectly, through your knowledge of their family ties.

There are many ways of greeting someone in Quuquu’sac. A very common way uses the question ?uh-?a?k-hak, something like “Is that you?”.

A literal translation doesn’t help much, but here is a breakdown if you are curious:

?uh-?a?k-hak

?uh stands for “is” or “are”.
?a?k is something like “now”, and
-hak shows that you are asking a question about the person you are speaking to.

When you see someone you know by the name of Sandy you greet her, and she answers you, like this:

You greet:   ?Uh = -?a?k -hak, Sandy?  (is that you, Sandy?)
Sandy answers:   Haa?a, ?uh = -?a?k -ah.  (yes, it’s me)

The greeting and the answer are the same, no matter if it’s a man or a woman, young or old.

So when you meet a fellow named Chris, you say:

You greet:   ?Uh = -?a?k -hak, Chris?   (is that you, Chris?)
Chris answers:   Haa?a, ?uh = -?a?k -ah.   (yes, it’s me)

Of course, if you know someone’s Quu’s name, it would be better to use that. Suppose there is someone whose Quu’s name is Saasin.

You greet:   ?Uh = -?a?k -hak, Saasin?   (is that you, Saasin?)
Saasin answers:   Haa?a, ?uh = -?a?k -ah.   (yes, it’s me)

Suppose you meet a relative, such as your aunt or uncle, then you use the kinship term.

You greet:   ?Uh = -?a?k -hak, naa’n?   (is that you auntie/uncle?)
He or she answers:   Haa?a, ?uh = -?a?k -ah.   (yes, it’s me)

(naa’n? is the shortened form of na?isgu “aunt/uncle” used when addressing your aunt or uncle. It’s the same word for both men and women, and both mother’s side and father’s side of the family).

And you don’t actually have to use their name. So you could use this shorter way of greeting Sandy or Chris or Saasin or your aunt or uncle:

You greet:   ?Uh = -?a?k -hak?   (is that you?)
They reply   Haa?a, ?uh = -?a?k -ah.   (yes, it’s me.)

What about when you come upon a group of people, or come into a room where others are already gathered? To greet several people, you use a slightly different expression:

You greet:   ?Uh = -?a?k -hasuu?   (is that you guys?)
They answer:   Haa?a, ?uh = -?a?k -in.   (yes, it’s us.)

Of course, they may not answer all at once, maybe just one person will answer your greeting by saying this phrase.

To be continued…

The dialogue above is an example of a new Easy-Read method of writing. In IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet), these two sentences are:

?Uh = -?a?k -hak, Ralph?   (is that you, Ralph?)
Haa?a, uh = -?a?k -ah.    (yes, it’s me.)