JUNE 18, 2011: NEW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Elected

The recent dramatic demonstrations in the Middle East highlight the anger and frustration that results from being excluded from a democratic process that respects the right to change a government through the ballot box.

Closer to home, Huu-ay-aht have been working for years for the right to govern ourselves, create our own constitution and laws, and to elect leaders who will be empowered to represent our interests, concerns and priorities. On June 18th, 2011, Huu-ay-aht elected an Executive Council who are bound by law to promote the principles of inclusion, transparency, accountability and fairness under the terms of the Huu-ay-aht Elections and Governance Acts. This historic election will be critical to the implementation of the Maa-nulth Treaty over the next four years.

Huu-ay-aht voters expect the new Executive Council to be motivated by the highest principles of public service, ethical behaviour, and integrity. They expect a commitment to the office, a belief in the importance of consultative and collaborative work, and a respect for the new Huu-ay-aht Constitution and Laws.

With all of the recent referendums and federal election activity, Huu-ay-aht voters may have quite rightly been feeling a bit of voter fatigue. However, Huu-ay-aht citizens took the time to attend All-Candidates meetings in Anacla and Port Alberni, and informed themselves about the issues that are important to them.

It is a new process for Huu-ay-aht as we learn to govern ourselves, and this election was definitely a learning experience for our citizens, candidates, and the staff who assisted with the election. The appointed Election Commissioner, Fred Schiffner, was instrumental in guiding the nation through our first election, as well as a postal strike that loomed over the process. He has given the Executive Director/Law Clerk an extensive report on the election, offering recommendations to improve the process for the next election in four years.

Our new government is empowered to examine and discuss those recommendations and make changes to the Election Act for future elections if they choose — without having to consult with any other government as we did in the past. This is another example of what self-government looks like as we implement the treaty, and a positive sign of many more changes to come.
Huu-ay-aht First Nations

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

A New Executive Council Meeting: July 7th, 2011

The first official meeting of the newly elected Executive Council took place on July 7th in Anacla at Ma’as Tamah. Maegan Gilrrow, legal counsel from Ratcliffe and Associates, was there to help orient the new Council in the Huu-ay-aht laws and regulations that now govern this council.

- The Law Clerk/Executive Director administers the laws that are legislated by the Executive Council.
- The Council may only act as “the Council” when there are five members or more present; members must be formally excused and if they miss four meetings per year they may be removed from council.
- The agenda must be set ten days prior to the Council meeting; reports and materials must be provided four days prior to the meeting (Government Act, Section 45). This is so that council may prepare, and it also makes the government open and transparent and accountable to YOU, so that you can see what the government is going to be talking about. Although it is more cumbersome than what a “Band Council” may have looked like, this is what a modern, accountable government looks like.
- No substantive matters may be discussed unless they are accompanied by a formal report.
- The Chief Councillor chairs all meetings.
- Almost all things require a written motion; the council will try to pass everything by consensus, but a vote may be held if necessary.
- The portfolios of the previous council were reviewed, as well as the organization chart, and the strategic vision (available at www.huuayaht.org).
- There is a process for citizens to bring their concerns forward to the Executive Council. For example, speak to an individual Councillor, who can communicate with the committee who are able to make recommendations to the Executive Council.
- If you have a complaint, the process is to write a letter to the Tribunal Chair, and either hand deliver or mail it to the Law Clerk at the Port Alberni government office.
- The People’s Assembly is another way for citizens to be involved. By October 25th, one month prior, citizens will see the agenda for the meeting which is scheduled for November 26th, 2011. At the People’s Assembly, citizens will also be asked to approve the Strategic Vision.
- The Executive Council also discussed the legislation that should be developed for the March 2012 session of the Legislature. Several pieces of legislation must be drafted to comply with the Treaty, including the Budget Act, 2012, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Housing Act, Property Tax Act, Citizen Development Policy Regulation, and Rental Housing Policy Regulations. A motion was passed to approve the timeline for drafting legislation proposed by legal counsel.
- Councillor portfolios were assigned (see page 4); an important change is the addition of Regional Portfolios to the responsibilities of each councillor. Thus, each councillor has a responsibility to an area like Anacal & TSL, Port Alberni, Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland, and Beyond the Lower Mainland and Abroad.

At left: A 180° view of the new Executive Council Chambers, on Gwa’s Tamah (photo: Katie Connah) and below: the 180° view out to Pachena Bay from the scating area.

On the cover: View of Ma’as Tamah in the summer (photo: Katie Connah).

HFN Government Updates

May 17th Executive Council: Final Meeting Highlights

The former Executive Council met on May 17th, 2011 for what would be their last time prior to the June election, at Ma’as Tamah in Anacla. May 20th was the first day of the campaign period for the June 18th election, which means according to the Election Act (Section 42 (3)): “During the campaign period, Executive Council and the Executive Director must not engage in, or travel on, government business unless reasonable required for the proper functioning of government”.

That means that any matter that can reasonably wait until after the campaign period (which is 28 days) must wait. In other words, no major decisions are to be taken, but matters can continue to be dealt with in accordance with existing policy.

Council members present were Chief Councillor Robert Dennis (Chair), Rob Dennis Jr, John Jack, Irene Williams, Ben Clappis, Ty’ee Ha’wiih Derek Peters, and Executive Director/Law Clerk Connie Waddell.

The meeting was not as long as some meetings had been prior to Treaty Implementation – it was only two hours. What’s different at Executive Council meetings after Treaty Implementation?

- In the past, each Councillor could bring motions to the meeting, provide reports and then councillors would vote upon any motions that were made. Now, the agenda must be provided ten days prior to the meeting and reports provided by staff or other individuals.
- At the Executive Council meeting, a comprehensive package is provided to all members with detailed reports for all pending motions, and then the motions are made and there is little need for extensive discussion: much of the work has already been done in advance of the meeting.

It provides a additional level of transparency for the government, and prevents the government from making decisions without respecting the process of Huu-ay-aht laws and regulations.

Highlights:

- Executive Council adopted a motion by consensus to purchase two trucks for the Nation: one for use by the Public Works department, and the other for use by staff based in Port Alberni to travel to work in Anacla which would reduce the costs of vehicle rentals. As required by the legislation, three quotes were obtained and provided to Council.
- Executive Council adopted by consensus a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Victoria and North Island College. The MOA must be signed in order to continue with planned Nuu-chah-nulth language courses at NIC and ensure a September 2011 start. For the past twelve months, the Huu-ay-aht Nananiqu (Grandparents) Cultural Society has been working with UVic and NIC to develop a curriculum for an accredited language course. HFN and the educational institutions are entering into collaborative, community-based programming to work towards the learning of the Nuu-chah-nulth language and to produce new, increasingly fluent speakers and instructors, and to deliver two accredited courses in the 2011/2012 academic year.

- Executive Council endorsed the idea of a Low Impact Development (LID) Pilot Project, and that as a first step, the government will begin with a feasibility study in 2012, funded through the Regional District of Nanaimo and the Province of BC.

- Executive Council adopted a motion for the government to work with the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council and the Regional District of Nanaimo to develop an application for a Low Impact Development (LID) Pilot Project, and to begin work in 2012. The government also endorsed the idea of a Low Impact Development (LID) Pilot Project, and that as a first step, the government will begin with a feasibility study in 2012, funded through the Regional District of Nanaimo and the Province of BC.

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Government Services

BC Tripartite First Nations Health Plan: What it Means to You

On May 26, 2011, BC First Nations’ Chiefs voted 146 to 13 in favour of pursuing a new First Nations governance framework that will determine future BC First Nations Health services and will eventually replace the current Health Canada system.

This historical resolution sets clear direction for the BC First Nations Health Council to oversee the final Framework Agreement, the Health Partnership Accord and to develop sub agreements and an implementation plan for the future health governance structure.

This agreement is ground breaking. There are no other agreements of this kind existing in Canada. Since 2005, BC First Nations, federal and provincial governments have worked together, committed to establishing a new relationship based on accountability, mutual respect and recognition. The goal is to develop plans to bridge the differences in socio-economic outcomes between BC First Nations and other British Columbians particularly in the areas of education, housing, economic opportunities and health.

What does this mean for BC First Nation people?

The new governance arrangement has seven directives to set the standards and instructions for the arrangement.

Directive 1: Community Driven, Nation Based
Directive 2: Increase First Nations Decision-Making Control
Directive 3: Improve Services
Directive 4: Foster Meaningful Collaboration and Partnerships
Directive 5: Develop Human and Economic Capacity
Directive 6: Be Without Prejudice to First Nations Interests
Directive 7: Function at a High Operational Standard

These directives ensure that ultimately services and programs for BC First Nations people will improve and exceed that of non-First Nation BC people!

The plan is set to be implemented over a ten-year span. Changes won’t happen immediately but slowly over time with certain bench marks being met and assessed at key times. The agreement does not affect any health transfers to nations and will not affect any Treaty agreements. It also does not affect the crowns’ fiduciary duties and responsibilities to BC First Nation people.

For more information, please contact Director of Human Services Kathy Waddell at the Huu-ay-aht government offices.

Message from New Education and Youth Coordinator

Hi all,

My name is Sheena Falconer, and I have been hired by HFN as the Education and Youth Coordinator. For those of you who haven’t met me yet, I will give you a little information about myself.

I returned to school as an older adult, once my kids had reached the age where they didn’t need me at home as much. We spent quite a few nights doing our homework together. They were very supportive and I appreciate how understanding they have been. I think that family is the most important thing in the world, and feel very lucky to have such wonderful people in my life.

Going back to school was scary at first. My first day back, I almost backed out, but my son had bought me a pay-as-you-go cell phone out of his savings so that I would be safe on the road. I had to go...and eventually I grew to love it. If anyone had ever told me that my path would lead me to the halls of a university, I would never have believed them.

I just completed my teaching certificate at Simon Fraser University in May. It has been a long journey. I have met wonderful friends along the way and learned so much. I hope to help others reach their educational dreams. I believe that we each have gifts and talents to share. I also believe that we never stop learning, and that we all learn in different ways.

If you can’t meet me in person, I can be reached through email sheena.f@huuayaht.org, on facebook (search for Huuayaht Education Coord) or at either the Anacla or Port Alberni office. I look forward to meeting with everyone.

Call for Committee Members

The Huu-ay-aht Executive Council wishes to establish two committees and add members to two existing committees:

- Treaty Implementation Committee
- Citizen Development Committee
- Finance Committee
- Citizenship Committee

To provide input, guidance and recommendations to the Executive Council, as required by the treaty and Huu-ay-aht legislation. Citizens may be members of more than one committee.

The Government Act states:

Section 59(4) As soon as practicable after Effective Date, Executive Council must establish a Treaty Implementation Committee.

Section 59(2) Members of committees must be Huu-ay-aht citizens, unless otherwise provided for by Huu-ay-aht legislation.

The Financial Administration Act states:

Section 78(2) The purpose of the Huu-ay-aht Citizen Development Committee is to assist Executive Council to encourage and enable Huu-ay-aht citizens to reach their full potential and to ensure citizens can meet basic needs.

The Financial Administration Act states:

Section 45(2) To be eligible for appointment to the [Citizenship] Committee...an individual must be:

(a) a Huu-ay-aht citizen who is at least 21 years of age, and
(b) knowledgeable about Huu-ay-aht history, culture, ancestry, customs, protocols, traditions and institutions.

For more information or to submit your name to be considered for an appointment, please contact the Assistant to Executive Council, Wally Samuel Jr., at hfnassistant@huuayaht.org or 250.723.0100 or 1.888.644.4555.

Deadline: Friday, September 2, 2011. Honoraria and travel expenses will be provided for successful appointees.

Appointment of Speaker

The Constitution Act states:

Section 2.30 Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall, in consultation with Ha’wiih Council, appoint a Speaker who shall preside over the proceedings of the Legislature and the People’s Assembly.

The Government Act states:

Section 39(2) A Speaker appointed by Executive Council must

(a) be an honoured and respected Huu-ay-aht citizen
(b) have the necessary experience, wisdom, and impartiality to fairly and effectively discharge the powers, duties and functions of Speaker
(c) be generally knowledgeable about Huu-ay-aht laws including the Constitution, huu-ay-aht legislation, and huu-ay-aht customary law.

For more information or to submit your name to be considered for an appointment, please contact the Assistant to Executive Council, Wally Samuel Jr., at hfnassistant@huuayaht.org or 250.723.0100 or 1.888.644.4555.

Deadline: Friday, September 2, 2011. Honoraria and travel expenses will be provided for the successful appointee.

“Fogust” at Pachena Bay (photo: Katie Connah)
CULTURE

HISTAKSHITL Ts’AWAATSKWII: WE COME FROM ONE ROOT

The 67 minute film, Histikshitl Ts’awaatskwii: We Come from One Root produced by Denise Green and Chuuchkamalthnii (Ron Hamilton) received the prestigious Jean Rouch award from Society for Visual Anthropology at the American Anthropological Association Conference last November in New Orleans (preview it on YouTube by doing a search for “Histakshitl Ts’awaatskwii”). In April of this year, it received the outstanding documentary award at the International Aboriginal Film and Art Festival in Duncan, BC.

The film will be distributed in 2012 as part of the Belkin Art Gallery’s exhibition catalogue for the Nuu-chah-nulth Thliitsapilthim exhibition that took place in 2010. Those interested in obtaining a DVD copy of the film should contact dogreen@interchange.ubc.ca.

Denise Green, film maker and PhD candidate, and Chuuchkamalthnii are presently collaborating on several Nuu-chah-nulth film projects on themes including Nuu-chah-nulth basketry, Nuu-chah-nulth materials presently held in North American and European museums, and educational language films for the Hupacasath First Nation. Those interested in participating in the basketry film project may also contact Denise at the above e-mail address.

What is the role for non-aboriginal people and anthropologists to make sure that the authentic aboriginal voice is heard in film and mainstream media?

Denise Green: “I think it is important that when working on a film or media project that people work together in a collaborative manner—whether anthropologists, non-aboriginal media makers, aboriginal film makers, aboriginal people, or all of the above. To me, the most important thing is to have a respectful dialogue about the production process with everyone who is participating. This means talking about what people’s expectations for the film might be, and how those expectations, ideas, and goals might become actualized in the film. Film projects are necessarily collaborative because there is so much that goes into a film.

A documentary like the one Chuuchkamalthnii and I made requires the participation and expertise of many people. We had over 20 individuals speak on camera, and many more people who contributed behind the scenes.

Another important dimension is that people have a say in the editing process. You’ve asked how to ensure that the voices heard in the film are authentic, and a big part of that is to have film participants watch and comment on how things have been edited together. For Histakshitl Ts’awaatskwii, we edited 70 hours of video footage into a 67-minute documentary film. That’s less than 2% of the total video footage! This meant that only parts of the often quite lengthy interviews we videotaped were included in the film. Because of this, I found the editing process to be the hardest part of the film production. People had so many important, interesting, and intelligent things to say about thliitsapilthim that it was hard to select only parts of their interviews for the final film. We screened what’s called a “rough cut” of the film for a group of 45 people in early January of 2011. We prepared a meal and invited people to come and watch this early version of the film. Afterward, we had a discussion about what people thought about it and the things they might like to see changed or added. I think this process is very important step to ensuring that people are comfortable with and approve of the way voices and images have been represented in the film.”

Why is it important to be talking about Thliitsapilthim now? What is the importance of the Thliitsapilthim to Nuu-chah-nulth and non-Nuu-chah-nulth?

Ron Hamilton: “While there are many layers of meaning to thliitsapilthim, one of the most important has to do with territory: who owns what and what people are attached to which territories. Every single Nuu-chah-nulth person that is the head of a house, a clan or a tribe—this includes the Tyee Ha’wilth of all of our Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations—has massive responsibilities. Yes, they have a few privileges, but, as well as have many responsibilities.

Among other things, the thliitsapilthim indicate where people are from and what territories that they have for hunting and fishing. When people are attached to a territory, they are responsible for a couple of things. One obvious responsibility is to look after all of the resources in the territory: to be primarily conservation-minded.

Thliitsapilthim say many things: ‘I am owned by this place’, ‘I am attached to this place’, ‘I belong to this place’, ‘While I am here, I am responsible to this place’, ‘This place belongs to me.’

In the process of looking at thliitsapilthim, we can explore our relationship with a wide variety of resources: whales, seals, salmon, cedar, quartz crystals, copper, wolves, crabs.

I think that it is important for us to teach the young people coming up, for us to teach them their values, their connections with their different resources and to teach them their peoples’ history of extraction and use of resources. Young Nuu-chah-nulth must be taught that they come from people with a real respect for their ha’houlthee, people concerned about sustainability and conservation of resources. All these things are pointed at by thliitsapilthim. The story behind thliitsapilthim, and the collection of crest images on them, rests on the elders and the people who own them. The responsibility for transmitting that history to the generations coming up behind us is ours and no one else’s.” – submitted by Denny Durocher

COUNCILLOR PORTFOLIOS

Each councillor has primary and secondary portfolios. As well, an important change is the addition of Regional Portfolios to the responsibilities of each councillor. Thus, each councillor has additional responsibilities to citizens in an area like Anacla & TSL, Port Alberni, the rest of Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland, and Beyond the Lower Mainland and Abroad. Note that Chief Councillor Jeff Cook and Councillor Derek Peters do not have Regional Portfolios and are considered to be “at large”.

Chief Councillor Jeff Cook:
Primary portfolios: Parks Co-Management Board, Health and Education
Secondary portfolio: Economic Development
Regional Portfolios—Primary: Anacla & TSL; Secondary: Port Alberni

Councillor Derek Peters (Nuchkoa), Tyee Ha’wilth:
Primary portfolios: Citizenship, Ha’wilth
Secondary portfolios: Lands, Forestry, Culture and Language

Councillor Sheila Charles:
Primary portfolio: Infrastructure and Public Works
Secondary portfolios: Health and Education, Housing, Media and Communications
Regional Portfolios—Primary: rest of Vancouver Island; Secondary: Anacla and TSL

Councillor Jack Cook
Primary portfolio: Culture and Language
Regional Portfolios—Primary: Beyond the Lower Mainland and Abroad; Secondary: Lower Mainland

Councillor John Jack
Primary portfolio: Economic Development, Finance, Housing, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
Secondary portfolios: Fisheries
Regional Portfolios—Primary: Port Alberni; Secondary: Beyond the Lower Mainland and Abroad

Huu-ay-aht Uy'aqmis
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4
HFN Comprehensive Community

Plan Update

This summer, I thought it would be a good time to check in and let you know what has been done so far for the Comprehensive Community Plan and what the plan is for next year. Below are the updated goals and strategies developed by the Executive Director and program directors to guide program service and delivery for the next few years.

In the coming months, a system will be developed to evaluate how well HFN is doing in achieving the goals and strategies. With your help, we will also develop a way to let you know the results of the evaluation – a programs and services report card. This means that everyone will know how we are doing in meeting our goals and objectives.

In September, there will be meetings in Anacla, Port Alberni and Vancouver to share the Comprehensive Community Plan with you and to get your help in developing the programs and services report card. We will also do a members survey at the same time to gather information from members who don’t attend the meetings. Please see the website, our Facebook group, and Uyaqmiis for upcoming dates.

Your comments and feedback are welcome. Please contact communications@huuayacht.org if you have any questions or would like to know more.

Finance and Government Services

Governance
Goal: To provide clear leadership and effective, fair decision-making to support the future growth and development of the Huu-ay-aht people.
Strategy 1: To be prepared for a smooth transition after Treaty.
Strategy 2: To develop laws to govern our community.
Strategy 3: To improve our intergovernmental relationships.
Strategy 4: To promote public access to documents.
Strategy 5: To support improved communications.

Administration
Goal: To provide high quality front line services to our members.
Strategy 1: To develop a drop-in resource and information centre available to members.
Strategy 2: To provide additional training to our administrative staff.
Strategy 3: To create a central and consistent organizational system for archival and communal records.

Goal: To support improved internal communication.
Strategy 4: To communicate better with our members, Chief and Council and between departments.
Strategy 5: To ensure that all administrative staff is fully informed of the Treaty process.

Goal: To ensure our employees and managers have the tools to do their jobs.
Strategy 6: To develop a Human Resources Department.
Strategy 7: To build awareness and understanding of our Human Resources Manual.

Community Infrastructure and Public Works

Capital
Goal: To provide infrastructure and related services which are safe, reliable and sustainable.
Strategy 1: To improve and maintain the road network within Anacla.
Strategy 2: To improve safety and control deterioration of our community lands through efforts to control erosion.
Strategy 3: To ensure that services are reliable.
Strategy 4: To support adequate, attainable housing opportunities.
Strategy 5: To build facilities that support cultural development.
Strategy 6: To develop a functioning Volunteer Fire Department.
Strategy 7: To improve communications in Anacla.

Chang#strateg#Fors#Chang#times
In April, only days after Treaty Implementation, HFN Fisheries took part in an experimental initiative to release Chinook Salmon into the Sarita River. These “S1”, a salmon smolt that runs to sea in the spring after one summer of growth in freshwater, were part of an experimental release strategy done in collaboration with Omega Pacific Hatchery at Great Central Lake. Carol Schmitt, who worked with HFN on the project notes, “I feel the energy of good things to come will be carried by the release of the 50,000 stream type Chinook and for their long journey to Alaska’s feeding grounds and safe return to Sarita River in four to five years.” HFN Fisheries has multiple release strategies, and this method is not necessarily recommended by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. However, HFN has been encouraged to try this method to see if it meets with success in the colder waters of the Sarita River, and we hope that in a few years we will see some of the Chinook return to the Sarita River. “I would have to say this is considered a celebratory release of ‘stream type’ Chinook,” says Carol.

Strategy 8: To improve security and safety at Sugaw.

Human Services

Health & Social Development
Goal: To be a safe, non-violent, healthy community living in harmony with respect.
Strategy 1: To encourage healthy eating.
Strategy 2: To build a healthy community.

Education
Goal: To ensure individuals have the education, training and support/access to resources they need to obtain gainful employment.
Goal: To increase our high school graduation levels.
Goal: To better support people starting school to stay in school.
Strategy 1: To provide education and training to our people.
Strategy 2: To cultivate a strong economy.
Strategy 3: To provide support to students pursuing training and/or post secondary education.

Communication

Strategy 1: To support improved communications.

Language and Culture
Goal: To support a successful revival of our language and culture, including increasing the number of fluent Huu-ay-aht speakers.
Strategy 1: To connect with the broader community and schools to integrate culture into local events and education.
Strategy 2: To develop facilities and related programs that is appropriate to practicing and promoting our culture both within our community and beyond.

Recreation and Sports
Goal: To ensure community members have access to a range of recreational opportunities
Strategy 1: To expand and improve our sport program.
Strategy 2: To provide opportunities for language education in recreational activities.
Strategy 3: To develop a range of recreational activities.

Lands and Natural Resources

Goal: Ensure that our lands and resources are managed in a sustainable manner and continue to support our members and their families culturally, socially and economically for generations to come.

Lands
Strategy 1: To utilise land use planning tools to guide development on TSL.
Strategy 2: To set up the Lands Office.
Strategy 3: To implement the land registry.
Strategy 4: To complete legal survey of all TSL.
Strategy 5: To communicate effectively with the public.
Strategy 6: To undertake staff training.

Natural Resources
Strategy 1: To restore and sustainably utilize our natural resources.
Strategy 2: To ensure that our presence is known throughout our Territory.
Strategy 3: To ensure that current licenses and quotas are utilized and acquire additional ones.
Strategy 4: To develop our Treaty land in a sustainable way.
Strategy 5: To ensure high levels of safety when participating in resource activities.
Strategy 6: To protect our fisheries resources.
Strategy 7: To utilise our food fish allocation in the Treaty.

Submitted by Councillor Sheila Charles, prior to her election to Executive Council
Benson Nookemis recalls the names of fishing boats in Sarita Bay (present site of the log the early 1900’s when Japanese carpenters built. Their boat building skills can be traced back to a source of real pride to reflect on how our grand-ample of our know-how and self sufficiency. It is building their own boats provides a shining ex-

The history of Huu-ay-aht fishermen and their families. athletes felt the confidence to build their own boats, their boat building skills can be traced back to the early 1900’s when Japanese carpenters built fishing boats in Sarita Bay (present site of the log sort operations).

Benson Nookemis recalls the names of these boats: the Lucky Kid, the Sarita Bay, and the Lucky Strike. Inspired by these boat builders more than 70 years ago, Huu-ay-aht boat builders felt the confidence to build their own boats, which provided livelihoods for several generations of Huu-ay-aht fishermen and their families. The Native II and Native III, built in Chapis by the Nuu-chah-nulth Summer Games at ADSS field in August 1985: the Huu-ay-aht reputation for doing things for themselves is well known beyond our territory. Do you see yourself in the picture? (photo courtesy of Jack Cook)

Huu-ay-aht self sufficiency has been alive and well in many different ways over the years.

As for training the young athletes from the village, Robert Dennis Sr. remembers, “We didn’t have a track to practice running so we marked off the distances for the various track and field events on a vacant lot in the village. Swimming practice involved swimming back and forth across the river at high tide. Distance running events were practiced at the beach in Anacla. The kids ran in the water, Charoises of Fire-style, to strengthen legs and running technique. As far as where to accommodate the team overnight during the Games, we camped out at Alberni Dry Creek Campground.” Impressed by the efforts and discipline of the young Huu-ay-aht athletes, Ahousaht elder Johnny Jacobsen made an unsolicited donation right then and there to help defray some of their costs. - contributed by Denny Durocher

Jackson Jack, Ernest Jack Sr. and Paul Jack are still in use today. We proudly remember the names of these pioneers: George Johnson, Bobby Sport, Willie Sport, Jack Jack, Ernest Jack Sr., Billy Happynook, Telford Dennis, Simon Dennis Sr. and Dan Williams who built a total of 12 fishing vessels in Nuumaktimiks.

Another bright example of Huu-ay-aht initiative took place 60 years later in the area of youth sports and recreation. Huu-ay-aht parents began organizing a community-wide effort to ensure that their children would be able to compete in the 1985 Nuu-chah-nulth Indian Summer Games. “We had bake sales, bingo and boot drives to raise the money necessary to send our young athletes to compete in Port Alberni,” recalls Chief Councillor Jeff Cook.

For Indian Status Card will continue to be valid proof of identity and can be issued Indian Status Cards by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. An Indian Status Card will continue to be valid proof of eligibility for tax exemption purposes.

The Maa-nulth Treaty Society issued a memo dated May 10, 2011 to clarify and inform businesses of the continued tax exemption applicable to Maa-nulth Treaty Nations.

The memo explained that the Maa-nulth Treaty provides that Status Indians who are Citizens/Members of the five treaty nations continue to be exempt from taxes after the Treaty on the same basis as they were before the treaty. The exemption continues from April 1, 2011 for the following periods:

- 8 years for all transaction taxes (HST, GST, PST, etc.)
- 12 years for all other taxes (income tax, property tax, etc.)

The continued tax exemption applies in the same manner as it does for non-treaty Status Indians on the reserves of any Indian Band for the periods described above. The exemption also applies on the former reserves of Maa-nulth Treaty nations.

Citizens/Members of the Maa-nulth Treaty Nations will continue to be issued Indian Status Cards by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. An Indian Status Card will continue to be valid proof of identity and can be relied upon by businesses as proof of eligibility for tax exemption purposes.

Little joins HFN as Youth/Elders Worker

Jack F. Little who is originally from the Ahousaht First Nation will be working with the Huu-ay-aht Youth and Elders for the next five weeks. Little completed a six week course called Experience Works Mobile on July 19th and as a continuation of the program he recently began a five-week job experience to work for HFN.

The program is specifically for those clients who are wanting to get back into the work force. It is sponsored by Ethos management Group. Little approached Kathy Waddell, HFN Director of Health and Human Services, with a proposal to work with Youth and Elders.

Little will be primarily responsible for registering and coaching Huu-ay-aht youth in the Tlu-pich Games sponsored by the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, scheduled for August 3rd - 7th. As another part of his duties Little will coordinate a meeting with the Huu-ay-aht Elders.

“I am very excited for the opportunity to work for Huu-ay-aht First Nation Elders and their Youth. The Youth are the foundation of any community and the Elders have many years of experience and knowledge and it will indeed be an honour to work for them,” said Little. “To the HFN Executive Council and to the Administrative staff, kleco, kleco for this opportunity and I look forward to the next five weeks,” Little also said. He will be working until August 19th, 2011 and can be reached at jack@huuay-aht.org.

DENTAL THERAPIST IN ANACLA

Health Canada recently created a position for a Dental Therapist in the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council communities, and, as it happens, HFN has recently created a space to accommodate one at M4’s Tamah! Melanie Braker is a member of the Tseshaht First Nation, and has been a Dental Therapist for almost four years. In her new role with Health Canada and NTC, she will be providing preventative dental services, health promotion activities, and some limited treatment services in Anacla (basic restorative procedures, extractions, and preventative procedures). Melanie also refers clients to local dentists as needed for treatment outside of her scope of practice. Pictured above is Melanie with Rick Nookemus in the new HFN dental clinic.

Election by the numbers

419: eligible voters (Huu-ay-aht Citizens and at least 18 years of age)
203: votes cast for Chief Councillor
204: votes cast for Councillors
54% voter participation (all votes received)
22: number of mail-in ballots rejected because they did not include a voter declaration form
4: number of rejected ballots for Chief Councillor
3: number of rejected ballots for Councillors

Saturday, June 15, 2015: next election date for Executive Council

Building Boats and Sports Programs

Little Joins HFN as Youth/Elders Worker

Huu-ay-aht Utyaqmms

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HEALTHY LIVING FOR FAMILIES AT A DISCOUNT

Are you a permanent resident of Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Victoria, or Vancouver? Are you interested in having some fun while getting healthy? Is it difficult to budget for family recreational activities?

One of these programs may be a good fit for you and your family. If you can demonstrate a low income* and that you are a permanent resident** of Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Victoria or Vancouver, you and your family could be eligible for free admission for swimming and ice skating sessions as well as a wide range of additional recreational activities. Each city has a different name for the program, but the purpose is the same: free access to Parks and Recreation programs for residents with low annual incomes, and confidentiality is assured.

Once your eligibility (residency and income) is confirmed, you may also be eligible for substantial, additional discounts on other recreational activities. Get more information program criteria and applications forms in your area:

City of Port Alberni:
Parks and Recreation Department, 250.720.2514
Having Everyone Access Recreation Today (HEART) Program

City of Nanaimo:
Parks, Recreation and Culture, 250.756.5200
Leisure Economic Access Policy (LEAP)

City of Victoria:
Parks, Recreation and Culture, 250.361.0732
Leisure Involvement for Everyone (LIFE) Program

City of Vancouver:
Leisure Economic Access Policy (LEAP)

*eligibility for these programs is based on Stats Canada Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) Rates

** can document at least 30 days city residency

HUU-AY-AHT VOICES

Hello,
I just received the April 1 edition of Huu-ay-aht Uyaqhmis paper, and read the “Tsunami Advisory” article.
I am impressed and comforted that Huu-ay-aht community is so pro-active with regard to community-wide emergency response.
I work in Seattle, and am a volunteer with the Emergency Response team for our organization. So I can appreciate all the time and attention that Huu-ay-aht Emergency Response committee put into their emergency plan.

Congratulations and Great Work!

Ms. Dora Joe
Huu-ay-aht member
Seattle, WA

P.S. Hello to Aunties Angie and Eunice Joe in Sarita!

Received from T’aqwihak (“Implementing Nuu-chah-nulth Fishing Rights”), May 19, 2011
Dear Tyee Ha’wilh Nicpnea, Huu-ay-aht Ha’wilh and Huu-ay-aht Council:
On behalf of the Ha’wilh, Chiefs, Councils, and members of Ahousaht, Ehattesaht, Hosquaht, Mowachaht/Muchalat, and Tla-o-qui-ahht, we are honoured by the recent generous contribution of the Huu-ay-aht Ha’wilh and Huu-ay-aht Council to our common cause. The Huu-ay-aht financial contribution to the ongoing expense of proving our rights to economic fisheries through the Canadian courts is most welcome by our Nations. The funding that Huu-ay-aht has contributed will contribute substantially to continuing our legal challenge. Again, we thank Huu-ay-aht Ha’wilh and Chief & Council for your on-going support of this most worthy cause.

Send your comments or greetings to communications@huuayaht.org or in the mail to the HFN government office in Port Alberni.

DORIS JOE & EUNICE JOE
New Videos Debut for Language Learners

Cooking programs on TV are very popular. How about a cooking program in the Nuu-chah-nulth language? That way you could learn about cooking and pick up the language at the same time. This is the concept behind a video project that is going on right now.

Nellie Dennis (ƛiiḥƛ̓iiḥʔisʔaqs) and Irene Williams (Shishaa) have put on a cooking lesson for the camera. The first step was to go shopping for the ingredients and cooking implements. They took along their own film crew to direct the action and dialogue, and operate the camera and microphone. Nellie and Irene bought everything they needed to make bannock at Quality Foods and Canadian Tire in Port Alberni (thanks to Bill Flynn, Manager at Quality Foods and Ken MacCallum, Manager at Canadian Tire, for arranging space for the filming in their stores).

And then Nellie and Irene put on a cooking lesson, actually making bannock, using only the Nuu-chah-nulth language to talk to each other. Everybody had fun doing this, because they enjoyed an inside joke – for the video lesson, Irene acted like she was listening very carefully to Nellie’s instructions – but in real life, Irene is very experienced at making bannock and doesn’t need any instructions at all.

This cooking lesson is part of a larger project sponsored by the Huu-ay-aht Nananiqus Grandparents Society with a small grant from NECD (Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation).

Other lessons deal with healthy eating and healthy activities, going on outings, and other positive activities. Some of these videos feature Daniel Jack as the young man who sets out to eat well and get proper exercise.

And then there is an ongoing story about a young man who sets out to learn the Nuu-chah-nulth language by visiting Huu-ay-aht relatives, a story that also stars Daniel Jack. As we watch his adventures, we learn the language along with him.

These videos are being prepared for use in the Nuu-chah-nulth language courses that will begin in September. However, others who are hosting Nuu-chah-nulth language lessons may want to use these videos, too. The most important skill to build in language lessons is listening: the ability to listen to a fluent speaker and understand them — so in these videos, there are NO subtitles. To improve your listening and understanding, you should watch the same video over and over. We have tried to make these videos enjoyable so that you will want to watch them repeatedly.

Here is an example from the cooking lesson so that you can see that you will be learning how to cook and picking up the Nuu-chah-nulth language at the same time.

One scene opens at the kitchen table, where we see that Nellie has a mixing bowl that she passes to Irene, and says:

**ʔUsineč ʔahkun.**
Then Nellie hands Irene a bag of flour and says:

**ʔUwiʔap̓aƛ̓ ƛ̓iƛ̓ick̓uk.**
Of course you will understand that she has said something to Irene about needing the bowl, and then something about Irene putting some flour in the bowl.

The exact meaning of the expressions Nellie uses will come out through further basic language lessons, and we are making videos for those lessons. But just from watching this simple cooking lesson a number of times, you will learn to associate these phrases with the actions.

To continue with the video lesson, we watch as Irene adds the flour, and then Nellie passes salt to her to add as she says:

**ʔAḥʔaaƛ ʔoont.**

Well, Nellie must be telling Irene to add some salt. And so on it goes, as Nellie hands all the other ingredients to Irene: lard, milk, etc. Irene adds all the ingredients according to Nellie’s instructions. Then Nellie makes a mixing motion and tells her,

**Cu, hišinšap̓aƛ̓i.**
Of course you will know that she has told Irene to mix those ingredients. So naturally you’ll know what Irene is saying when she picks up a spoon and starts mixing. She is telling you what she is doing:

**Cu, hišinšap̓aƛ̓aḥ.**
This lesson continues all the way through baking the bannock, and then they enjoy eating it with butter. You’ll almost be able to smell the delicious aroma of fresh bannock as you watch this video.

Please watch for this cooking lesson, to be released soon on DVD and already posted on the HFN YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/HFNCommunica-

*Who knows — maybe there will be a regular Nuu-chah-nulth cooking show on TV very soon!*  
~ Dr. Terry J. Klokeid

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### September Courses

Fall 2011 (Sept. - Dec. 2011): Linguistics 159  
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (3 hours with breaks)  
First session: Wednesday, September 7  
For more information, contact Kathy Waddell, Director of Human Services, Huu-ay-aht First Nations (kathy.w@huuayaht.org, 250.723.0100)