

Community sessions continue to offer information to citizens

The first of three September Community Engagement Sessions was a big success on Tuesday, September 16th with approximately 50 people attending.

On Wednesday and Thursday similar sessions took place in Anacla and Vancouver, respectively. Two sessions took place in Anacla, with the first being for Huu-ay-aht First Nations citizens, and the second for residents of Bamfield. Approximately 15 people attended both the Anacla and Vancouver sessions, while close to 50 came in the evening one in Anacla.

See Page 2 for more on this story



(Above) Dancers join drummers in a blessing before the dinner at the Community Engagement Session in Port Alberni on September 16th at the Best Western Barclay. (Right) Elected Chief Councillor Jeff Cook, H̱aw̱iit Andy Clappis and Marie Newfield make a presentation about their trip to a gas extraction site in Alberta to the citizens in attendance at the Anacla CES.



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(Above) Approximately 15 people attended the session in Vancouver at the Aboriginal Friendship Centre on September 18. Citizen Dora Joe traveled from Seattle to Vancouver to hear about the proposed LNG facility. (Left) From left to right, Larry Johnson, Edward R. Johnson, Councillors Tom Happybrook and John Jack and Jack Cook welcome people to the session in Port Alberni.

Huu-ay-aht First Nations

A Rich History, A Bright Future



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 flourish for the benefit of all Huu-ay-aht.

Huu-ay-aht Uyaq̓hm̓is is printed up to six times per year to foster community engagement among a population of over 700 citizens. Huu-ay-aht Uyaq̓hm̓is promotes the recovery and sharing of the Huu-ay-aht dialect of the Nuuchahnulth language as well as knowledge of Huu-ay-aht culture.

Please send all comments and questions to the Huu-ay-aht Communications Department.

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Visit
www.huyuayaht.org
 for the latest news and events, job postings, and a digital archive of Uyaq̓hm̓is

Keep up to date with Uyaq̓hm̓is on social media:
 @HuyuayahtFN



Huu-ay-aht First Nations Facebook page



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October sessions coming up soon

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The meetings were an opportunity to review the proposed partnership between Huu-ay-aht First Nations and Steelhead LNG. It was a chance to offer more information, as well as hear from citizens and answer some of their questions.

Each session included presentations from members of the delegation on the tour they took of a natural gas extraction site in Alberta.

Steelhead LNG CEO Nigel Kuzemko and Projects Director Ernest Buchan shared a video that explained natural gas extraction. The video is available on the Huu-ay-aht website under LNG news. Nigel also clarified that no natural gas extraction would take place in Huu-ay-aht territories. Natural gas extraction would be done by other companies and would take place in northern British Columbia or Alberta with the

gas being transported by natural gas pipeline to Sarita Bay.

This project has not been approved or moving ahead at this point. This is the consultation stage with citizens, and is the first step in a four-year decision period.

The next session takes place on Tuesday October 14 in Port Alberni at the Best Western Barclay, from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 15 in Anacla will include an afternoon session for citizens at the Anacla Government Office from 2 to 5 p.m. and an evening session that is also open to residents of Bamfield at the House of Huu-ay-aht, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The Vancouver session is on October 16 at the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Nanaimo will be on October 27 at the Coast Bastion, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Victoria is at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre on October 28, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be supplied in each community.

Legislature sits for special session



On September 12th a special sitting of Legislature took place in order to amend the Budget Act 2014. The amendments are now posted on www.huuayaht.org, under the government section. Executive Council held the third and fourth sitting of Legislature on September 30th. At this session the Economic Development Plan was approved. Pictured is (left to right) Councillor Tom Happynook, Angela Wesley, Elected Chief Councillor Jeff Cook and Councillor John Jack who participated in the special sitting of Legislature in the Executive Council Chambers in the Anacla Government Offices.



UYAQHMIS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Engagement Sessions

Port Alberni - October 14, 4 to 7 p.m., Best Western Barclay;

Anacla - October 15, 2 to 5 p.m. at AGO and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the House of Huu-ay-aht (also includes Bamfield residents);

Vancouver - October 16, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Aboriginal Friendship Centre;

Nanaimo - October 27, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Coast Bastion;

Victoria - October 28, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Victoria Native Friendship Centre from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, October 24, 25, 2014

Vancouver Island Traditional Foods Conference, Ucluelet. For info call 250-735-4111.

Saturday and Sunday, November 7 and 8, 2014

Youth conference - Equip Your Canoe for Success: Carving out Opportunities for Youth - at the Best Western Barclay and North Island College.

Saturday and Sunday, November 29 and 30, 2014

HFN People's Assembly at the Barclay.

BIRTHDAYS COMING UP

Wishing Myrtle Williams a very happy birthday. She turned 70 on September 21st.

CONGRATULATIONS

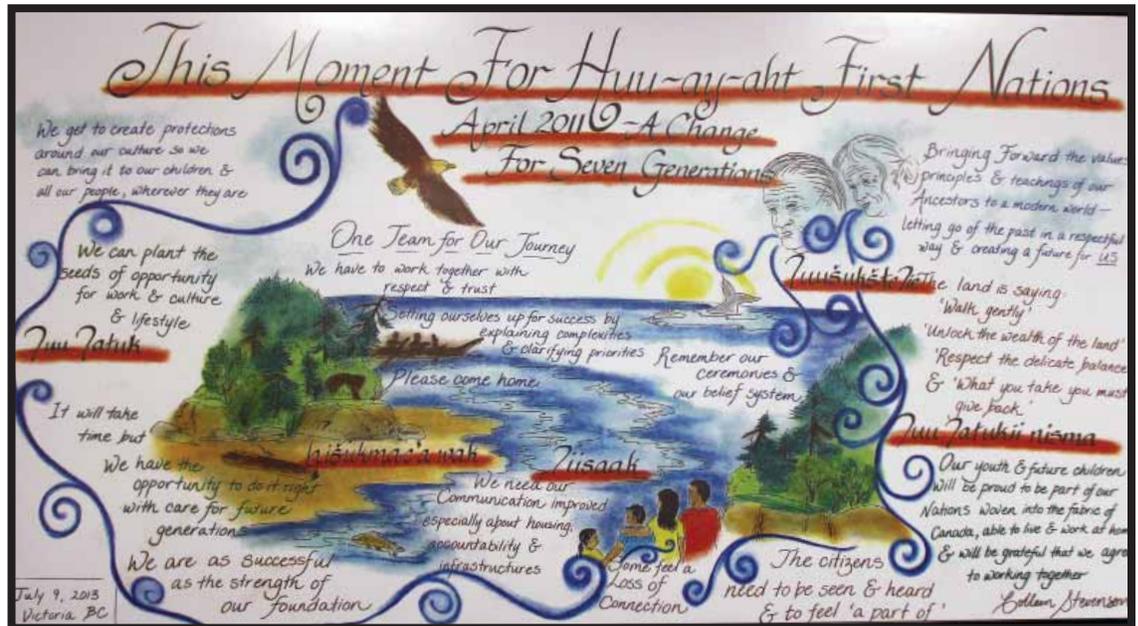
A big congratulations goes out to Huu-ay-aht First Nations youth Aubrey Rayner. She placed number two out of all 10-year-old girls in B.C. in recent BMX races. She has also won several Vancouver Island championships in her first year of racing. She will be racing to determine her place out of all girls in her age group on October 10th to the 12th in Chilliwack. She only started racing approximately seven months ago, but she picked up a factory team sponsor from Answer Canada.
Good luck Aubrey.

Do you have an event or announcement you would like included in the community calendar? Email us at communications@huuayaht.org, and we will include it.

Nation makes meeting five posts of Strategic Plan its top priority

Last year, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Executive Council went through a long-term strategic planning session.

It involved a review of current successes and challenges that the organization has faced, the opportunities that exist in our region and province and the feedback from the HFN citizens and staff from the HFN Values Survey and the HFN staff survey.



When setting strategic goals, Council considered the Maanulth Treaty, their mandate as elected and hereditary leaders, issues that face the citizens, government, administration and HFN businesses, as well as best practices in strategic planning.

Through the process, five posts were identified and, as a result, long-term goals were set by the Executive Council. They are as follows, all set out for 20 years:

- **Our People** will be free from the negative effects of colonization.
- **Our Children** will grow up safe, healthy, connected to the community and exemplify Huu-ay-aht values.
- **Our Home** will be a safe, healthy and appealing place where half our people choose to live.
- **Our Land** will continue to provide sustainable wealth that respects the Huu-ay-aht values of conservation.
- **Our Economy** will be operated sustainably and will be the major employer in the region and the major source of revenue for the Nation.

These goals will be achieved by focusing on communication, children and families, integrated culture and values, infrastructure and natural resources and trade.

The document creates a road map to achieving the Nation's mission statement and vision. The vision is: The Huu-ay-aht envision a strong, self-governing and self-reliant Nation. *ʔlisaak* will guide us as we work together to foster a safe, healthy and sustainable community; where our culture, language, spirituality and economy flourish for all. The mission is: As a leader among First Nations, the Huu-ay-aht will create certainty for its people and generate wealth for financial independence by providing economic opportunities, social, cultural and recreational programs for all Huu-ay-aht.

All of the goals laid out in the plan are based on the feedback from citizens, and it strives to address their concerns and meet their vision for the community.

Now that the strategic plan has been created, the priorities have been included in the budgeting process.

That means, moving forward, the Nation will examine how each project or proposal will affect the five posts. It also makes the staff and Executive Council accountable and sets out specific goals they must strive to achieve in order to satisfy the goals of the Strategic Plan, which has been outlined up to 2017.

If you would like more details on the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan, go to www.huuayaht.org, under the government page.

Weigh in on project with online LNG survey

In an effort to better understand how its citizens feel about the proposed partnership between Huu-ay-aht First Nations and Steelhead LNG, Huu-ay-aht is asking citizens to take a few minutes to fill out a survey.

The survey will be available online at www.huuayaht.org, as well as through the HFN Facebook page. Those who complete the survey will be entered into a draw to win one of two iPad minis (valued at \$320 each).

If you do not have access to these options, community liaisons will also be phoning citizens to go through the questionnaire. As long as your contact information is up to date, you should receive a call. If you do not hear from them, please call the government office in Port Alberni (250-723-0100) to update your contact information.

This survey is another way to help HFN and Steelhead gauge the citizens' opinion on their proposed partnership and the possible LNG facility in Sarita Bay. For that reason, it is important to get as many responses as possible so please take part.



Huu-ay-aht First Nations and Steelhead LNG spent Labour Day on the water this year. A number of local dignitaries and business people joined Steelhead and HFN representatives and Executive Council members on a chartered fishing trip. Not a lot of fish were caught, but it was a great day on the water and many friendships were forged and relationships strengthened.



New manager of the Market looking forward to new home

As the leaves begin to change this fall, so will the Market as it welcomes a new manager.

Julian Wolstenholm has arrived in Bamfield, and he is ready for his next adventure as he takes over as the manager of the Market.

Julian has lived just about everywhere in British Columbia, and he sees Bamfield as a perfect fit for what he is looking for at this point in his life.

"The area is incredibly interesting to me," he says. "I have lived all over the western part of Canada - I get a kick out of moving around."

But, while he has visited Tofino, he has never lived on the West Coast. With the desire to do so, he started looking for jobs in Tofino or Ucluelet. His background is in the hospitality industry, and so he thought his skills would be a good fit with that area. When he saw the posting for the manager's job at the Market, he decided it was a perfect fit and applied.

"I thought, 'That's the gig for me,'" he says. "I spent two or three days camping in Pachena, and I loved it. It is just the kind of physical beauty I am looking for."

Julian grew up in Hamilton, Ontario, and when he first moved west he fell instantly in love.

"I didn't realize there was this much beauty in the world," he says. "I want to see as much as I can of it."

He is looking forward to starting his new job, but most of all he



(Left to right) John and Sheryl Mass welcome Julian Wolstenholm to the Market in Bamfield. Julian is the new Market Manager and will start his new job this month.

can't wait to get to know the community and learn more about First Nations culture, which fascinates him.

As for his plans at the Market, he says it's too soon to say. He says first he wants to know how it operates and get to know the staff. He says the most important thing he wants to see is that the Market becomes a place of gathering for the community.

"I want it to be a place in town where you can meet with friendly people from the community, have a good time and know you will get great service," he says.

He says his first impression of the village is just what he expected. It is a beautiful location and everyone has been really friendly and welcoming.

Stan Coleman, CEO of Huu-ay-aht Development Corporation, says they have been looking for quite some time for the perfect fit at

the Market. Of the candidates, they chose Julian because they believe he will be a good coach and bring to the job the enthusiasm needed to help get the Market to where Huu-ay-aht First Nations has wanted it to be since they took over ownership of the operation.

He says under the leadership of John and Sheryl Mass, the Market has made huge strides forward. The staff has risen to the challenges they were offered, and the Market is doing well. Stan believes that will continue as the transition takes place from the John and Sheryl to Julian.

Stan says first they have to focus on growing and educating good staff, with a focus on hiring and training more Huu-ay-aht citizens from both inside and outside the community, and they are well on their way. That is where Julian's coaching and leadership skills will benefit the operation.

See Page 7 for more on this story

HUU-AY-AHT AROUND TOWN



Peter Clappis was out in his chair on August 12th. Like many citizens, he was very excited to receive his food fish in Victoria.



2014 Salmon Festival winner Ray Ursel of Port Alberni poses with his fish as Dan Washington, Port Alberni Salmon Festival Society President, presents him with his trophy. Huu-ay-aht and Steelhead LNG were sponsors. [Alberni Valley News photo]



(Left) Representatives from Huu-ay-aht First Nations and Steelhead LNG host a booth at the Alberni District Fall Fair. Right next door was the Huu-ay-aht Development Corporation (above).

No big changes planned, just continued growth

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As the business grows, HDC will look at what capital they want to invest in the store and restaurant facility and implement new ways to grow the both sides of the business.

"It is important to meet and exceed the customer demands," Stan says. "We have to have more available for them and offer high quality products."

He agrees it is vital that the Market is part of the community's culture. He says by continuing to

"I want it to be the place in town where you can meet with friendly people from the community, have a good time and know you will get great service."

Julian Wolstenholm, Market Manager

offer services like the school lunch program and special community meals, it will offer the citizens a feeling of ownership of the Market.

He says they operate through three seasons - off-season, high-

season and the shoulder-season - they must have the same great service and products no matter what time of year it is.

Stan says Sheryl and John have done an incredible job since taking over and their hard work is paying off and greatly appreciated. He looks forward to seeing what can be accomplished next.

Julian hopes that, once he starts working, people will come by the Market to say hello and introduce themselves so he can get to know the people of the community.

Researcher partners with Huu-ay-aht in project that explores treaty journey

Heather Castleden is no stranger to many Huu-ay-aht First Nations citizens.

Heather has been working with Huu-ay-aht for approximately 10 years, and she looks forward to the next chapter of her time with the Nation. Now an associate professor at Queens University, she is the principal investigator with a new research project that is set to begin with HFN as a partner. The project is called "Our Journey, Our Choice, Our Future: Applying a Community-based Participatory Research Approach to Document, Understand and Evaluate the Huu-ay-aht Path to a Modern Treaty and Its Implementation with British Columbia and Canada."

After years of formal negotiations, in 2011 the Maa-nulth Treaty was ratified and is moving into its implementation phase. Heather says, despite the treaties being described as "the most complex and important issue facing Canada today (B.C. Treaty Commission, 2009)," a significant gap remains in the scholarly, policy and public understanding of the successes and pitfalls of the modern treaty process and its implementation. She hopes her research will help fill some of those gaps.

Heather has worked closely with HFN in the past, first through a photography and story-telling project about the relationship between Huu-ay-ahts, cedar and salmon in light of the ongoing treaty negotiations. Later she did a video-based digital story-telling project with HFN youth on their vision for the Nation post-Treaty.

"I can't imagine doing this project without a 10-year relationship



Heather Castleden is heading up a new research project with Huu-ay-aht First Nations as a partner.

with the Nation," she says. "I have a sense of coming home and feel very welcome. I also understand some of the history pre-treaty, and now that it has been implemented I'm looking forward to working with HFN again, and reconnecting with the people I have met in the past."

Her case study is meant to document, understand and evaluate HFN's journey to accepting the Treaty. It will also touch on the issues, decision-making processes and outcomes associated with implementing the Treaty.

The research project has four main objectives. It will situate the Treaty within the broader historical, socio-political, geographical and cultural context and document and understand how treaty negotiators express and differentiate the complex negotiation process. Finally, it will investigate the issues, challenge and opportunities

with implementing a treaty at multiple scales and monitor and evaluate the research in terms of community empowerment, ownership and control.

Heather says that First Nations leaders and their citizens who are considering entering into treaty negotiations should find this study adds intellectual insights and critiques of modern treaties and Indigenous-settler relations in Canada. But she also says that her primary focus is for it be of benefit to HFN.

"As Huu-ay-ahts move forward, this study will also make original contributions for policy and practice in terms of our understanding of how all Canadians are subject to the terms and conditions of historical and modern treaties," she says.

Heather will be meeting with the Treaty Implementation Committee in October and is hoping to make it to one or more of the community engagement sessions, but because she is teaching classes this semester, her time in the community will be limited. The following semester in the new year will be better because she won't be teaching, and she looks forward to connecting with citizens and hearing some of their feedback. The following year she is on sabbatical, and she will dedicate a lot more time to the project. She will have assistants, including a PhD student, Vanessa Sloan Morgan, who worked with her and HFN youth in the past, but it is still unsure who else will be working with her.

If you want more information on the projects Heather has done with HFN, go to <http://www.heclab.com>, and follow the links to digital stories. The HFN videos are included.

CULTURAL CORNER - WEAVING



Traditionally Huu-ay-aht First Nations believe in not wasting anything in nature. From that the tradition of weaving cedar strips began, and continues today. The items to the left were done by Ella Jackson. They include (clockwise from left) a berry or apple carrying basket, a floor mat, shopping baskets or purses, the rope used at the opening of the House of Huu-ay-aht, a small basket and the form used when weaving baskets. (Left) Cedar is also used to create roses, as is shown here.



Conference offers youth look at future opportunities

Huu-ay-aht First Nations wants to make sure youth in the community are ready to take advantages of future education and job opportunities.

As recently discussed at the Community Engagement Sessions, the possibility of developing an LNG facility in Sarita Bay could create jobs in Huu-ay-aht homelands. Health care also promises to offer many career options in the future. Huu-ay-aht wants to make sure everyone is ready to take advantage of these positions should the project move forward.

With that in mind, as part of the communications and engagement plan with youth, Huu-ay-aht will be holding a youth opportunities conference. The conference is called "Equip Your Canoe for Success: Carving out Opportunities for Youth." This will focus on emerging employment opportunities and planning for the future.

The Huu-ay-aht Government has identified the creation of employment and training opportunities for citizens as a priority. HFN is also working on creating youth programs that will support youth in education and career exploration. The Equip Your Canoe for Success conference will provide citizens with opportunities for skill development and aptitude testing.

The conference is designed for Nu-

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, November 7 - 6 to 9 p.m.,
Best Western Barclay Hotel
Saturday, November 8 - 9:30 a.m. to
4:00 p.m., NIC Port Alberni campus
Please call the Port Alberni HFN office
at 250-723-0100 if you are interested.

chah-nulth youth, aged 15 to 30. The goal is to attract 60 participants. Nu-chah-nulth youth from everywhere are invited to attend, and the Nation hopes it will be able to subsidize travel costs for Huu-ay-aht youth.

It will take place on November 7th and 8th. The conference will include inspirational keynote speakers, workshops on a variety of topics and cultural components.

The conference would kick off with a welcome and dinner on Friday night at the Best Western Barclay. That would be followed by a networking opportunity that includes some social activities and a collaborative cultural art project at the North Island College (NIC) campus in Port Alberni.

Saturday morning following breakfast, a keynote speaker will take the floor. After the speaker finishes everyone will take part in two workshops. This will be followed by lunch, a presentation by another keynote speaker and two more workshops. The workshops will break partici-

pants down into smaller groups, and they will be able to choose topics of interest to them. They will focus on employment opportunities, highlighting areas determined based on labour market trends in the region, including Steelhead LNG, Western Forest Products, the RCMP, the First Nations Health Authority, Island Health and tourism. Other workshop subjects include working with the Nation, a UBC focus group addressing the role of the *hawiih* in decision making and governance, building your interview skills as well as the impacts of colonization and moving beyond that to the future. The day will wrap up around 3:30 p.m.

It is hoped that the conference will offer participants a better understanding of potential career opportunities with the Nation and in the region. It will also help them plan and execute their short- and long-term goals. It will help the students or employees participating learn more about the pieces that they can put in place to be ready for what the future may hold for them. They will learn more about the resources available, feel inspired, hear speakers who describe their personal journeys and feel comfortable in an academic environment like NIC. If you are interested in participating, call the HFN Port Alberni Government Office at 250-723-0100.



The Huu-ay-aht First Nations delegation sees the sand used in gas extraction during a tour of a natural gas facility near Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Huu-ay-aht delegation reports on tour of Alberta natural gas site

A delegation of Huu-ay-aht First Nations citizens traveled to Alberta on a fact-finding trip to visit a natural gas facility on September 4th and 5th.

The purpose of the trip was to learn more about the extraction of natural gas as it relates to the proposed LNG project between Steelhead LNG and Huu-ay-aht. The delegation included Elected Chief Councillor Jeff Cook and Councillor Tom Happynook, **Hawiił** Andy Clappis, Roy Werner, Marie Newfield and Stephen Rayner.

Steelhead LNG arranged the tour of a natural gas extraction facility near Grande Prairie, and the delegation flew out on Thursday, September 4th to learn more about the operations that occur there.

The first stop was in Grande Prairie where they met with the CEO of the natural gas extraction company at his home for supper. They also had an opportunity to meet with the chiefs from the two First Nations communities on whose territories the operation is located.

Chief Jeff Cook said he was somewhat surprised by that relationship, and he was pleased to hear that it too began before any development took place. He was also impressed to hear that the operation employs a number of members of the First Nations communities.

He said some of them were labourers, and many had received opportunities for training. Many of the people the delegation met

on Friday's tour were First Nations and they had started as labourers and were now trained to do some of the more skilled positions.

Marie Newfield was impressed by the relationship between the company executives and the First Nations communities. She said the "big shots" were just like family with the First Nations community members, and you could tell it was genuine and mutual.

They did not discuss the financial side of the agreement, but overall it was a positive relationship that seemed to be offering many opportunities to the communities and the citizens.

Neither chief offered any kind of concern over the operation or natural gas in general.

Group sees first hand how natural gas is extracted

Roy Werner said it was obvious both parties were benefitting from the agreement. He believes the same would be true should Huu-ay-aht and Steelhead move forward in their partnership.

On Friday morning, the Huu-ay-aht delegates' tour started when they learned some of the science behind extracting natural gas. Company representatives showed them the geographical core samples of what the different layers of the earth looked like in the area where the extraction takes place. The deepest of these was the layer of shale, a soft rock from which the natural gas is extracted. This layer is approximately three kilometres below the surface. It is a porous layer that resembles a sponge. The gas lies within the pockets of the shale rock. The group learned that, in order to extract the gas from the shale, a pipe is drilled down to that layer. The pipe then turns and drills horizontally into the shale.

After the pipe reaches the shale a dense liquid is injected into the rock. This liquid is a combination of water, sand, a water-soluble gelling agent called guar gum (also used in making Lifesavers popsicles), as well as other chemicals, such as one that is commonly found in eye drops. That liquid is pressurized and sent down the pipes. The pressure causes the shale to crack. While the sand keeps these cracks open, the gas is released and the atmospheric pressure causes it to come to the surface naturally.

Liquid that comes back up the pipe consists mainly of water and salt and is filtered so most of the water can be re-used in the fracking process. The liquid that cannot be reused is put into sealed wells. Scientists are continually finding new technologies to reuse more of



The path of the natural gas pipeline that runs from near Grande Prairie to Chicago can be seen from the air, as the delegation tours the area by helicopter during their trip to Alberta.

the water and come up with better solutions. Stephen Rayner said he is concerned about the use of water in the natural gas extraction process. However, he is relieved that the company is investigating ways to make changes so that not as much water is used during this process and that the company is working on reusing more of the water.

Chief Jeff Cook said fracking is one thing people ask about when it comes to the extraction side of natural gas. He said it is important to understand that it is not a new process. Companies have been fracking for more than 50 years, and it is only recently that people have voiced concerns over the practice. But he says it is still important to get both sides of the issue.

After a tour of one operational facility and another still under construction in Grande Prairie,

the delegation was taken on a helicopter tour of the area. They could see a lot of wells on the Crown land from the air, but the footprint from the operation was quite small. That is due in part to the fact that the company is able to drill horizontally once it is in the shale. This means they can drill one well with a main vertical line and run a number of horizontal lines from that main pipe.

Despite the small footprint, Chief Jeff Cook said the operation is responsible for supplying natural gas for the entire city of Chicago. From the air they could see the pipeline that fed Chicago, and it was not a large scar on the earth. It was a strip of cleared land heading south. The trees were cleared and you could tell where the pipeline was, but it was green with vegetation.

The distance from Grande Prairie to Chicago is 3,070 kilometres, whereas the distance between Grande Prairie and Port Alberni is only 1,350 kilometres, which suggests piping natural gas to the LNG facility would not be a problem.

Reflecting upon the tour, Stephen Rayner said that he feels that there is great value in engaging First Nations when building the facility, because these community members have concern for the environment and the local surroundings. He said it is better to have some control and say than to hand it over to someone who has less knowledge about the things that matter.

Chief Jeff Cook said they believe, if the LNG facility in Sarita Bay moves forward, HFN would see benefits for generations to come, much like the two First Nations communities in Alberta. It is estimated that the construction phase could create 3,000 jobs and, once operational, it could employ up to 400.

Familiar faces at Huu-ay-aht administration get new responsibilities in recent staffing shuffle

In addition to all of the new faces introduced in last month's *Uyaqhmis*, a number of existing staff have switched jobs and have new duties.

Brent Ronning is now the coordinator of secondary and post-secondary education, shifting from his former role of manager of advanced education and communications. The new role allows him to focus and build programming and support for Huu-ay-aht learners, something he is passionate about.

"Some citizens may remember that I previously worked on the *Uyaqhmis* newspaper when it was published monthly, as well as doing various projects around the development of the Čitx^wama Čix^watin (Soaring Eagle) Centre, literacy and student sponsorships," he explains. "Now, I will be concentrating my energies to support HUU-ay-aht learners in their educational goals, including training and trades."

As a self-governing First Nation, HFN has the freedom to develop its own education policies and priorities, which is why citizens might notice that the program now includes trades certification as a priority.

Along with administering the post-secondary programs for HFN, Brent will also be working more closely with HUU-ay-aht secondary students to help them identify their goals and make plans for their future studies. Identifying students who may benefit from individual tutoring as part of their success plan will also be a priority.

"Finally, adult learners will be an important part of the HUU-ay-aht future as the treaty is implemented, and I welcome citizens to contact me to discuss the ways in which our programming can support your goals—for upgrading, training, and certifications," he says.

Deborah Smith was previously the executive assistant, office manager and acting law clerk. She is now the administrative services manager and deputy law clerk. She is excited about her new responsibilities, and looks forward to the November 2014 People's Assembly, the session of Legislature on Sept. 12, a new records management system and a governance model.

Kathy Waddell was the director of human services, but she has changed hats and is now the director of community services.

She said the main difference in the two roles is that



HFN administration staff gather at the Anacla Government Offices.

in her new role she will be spending more time capacity building and supporting frontline coordinators and measuring effectiveness of services. She is still responsible for direct services and supports to citizens. Her portfolio includes language, culture, elders, social development, community health, patient travel, Paawats (ECE), education, child protection issues and support for families. It has been expanded to include citizen development officer, Port Alberni Paawats and assisting with fish distribution. She will be ensuring these programs and supports operate on budget, and are effective, efficient and relevant.

Kathy will be working closely with the executive council and the HFN strategic management team to implement and monitor the HFN 2014-2017 Strategic Plan.

"I am excited to be looking at new challenges and initiatives from different perspectives and look forward to my continued service to HUU-ay-aht People," she said.