June 8, 2016

Dear Huu-ay-aht Citizens,

Since our community decided as a collective to explore the Sarita LNG project in November 2014, pre-development activities have taken place. We now have funding in place from Steelhead LNG for further “Made-in-Huu-ay-aht” LNG community discussions and negotiations.

We look forward to bringing you regular updates in the form of Community Engagement Sessions and other communication means such as the Nation’s website, elder, youth and family discussions, printed material, and a third film for the Nation (yet to be titled).

We have heard citizens say that we need to start with basic information to get “back into the topic,” then move into more technical information on the project as the conversation evolves. Although this project has tested us with debate, the most important things to us are our relationship with you, with each other, and with our people. We are all Huu-ay-aht. We are family. Having a healthy relationship with each other is our top priority.

Our commitment since the 2014 People’s Assembly has been to have a thorough look at this project. We want to know your thoughts, your feelings, your concerns, your hopes, and your ideas and top priorities. The LNG project will not move forward without your input.

As your traditional and elected leadership, we collectively commit to keeping you informed over the coming months as we continue to explore the project and continue negotiations with Steelhead LNG. As part of our own research, we have contracted Traditions Consulting to do a Traditional Use and Occupancy study of Sarita Bay, which now also includes Diana Island. We look forward to sharing the preliminary findings with you.

We have attached an invitation to the first round of Community Engagement Sessions for you and your family. We really hope you can join us to share a meal and information.
With commitment and respect,

Council of Ḥawi̱łł

Aiišin Derek Peters
Yaalu'a Jeff Cook
B. Frank
V. Williams
? Awaanaq Victer Williams
Donna Wickers

Elected Leadership

Robert Dennis
Connie Waddell
John Jack
Trevor Cootes
Sheila Charles
Ben Clappis

Hapinyuuk Tom Happynook