



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

**Executive Council Report  
June/July 2024**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**CHIEF COUNCILLOR JOHN JACK ..... PAGE 3-6**

**HA'WIIH REPRESENTATIVE THERESA NOOKEMUS REPORT ..... PAGE 7-8**

**COUNCILLOR EDWARD JOHNSON REPORT ..... PAGE 9-11**

**COUNCILLOR BRAD JOHNSON REPORT ..... PAGE 12-15**

**COUNCILLOR EVAN COOK REPORT ..... PAGE 16-17**

**COUNCILLOR STEPHEN RAYNER REPORT ..... PAGE 18-20**

## **Chief Councillor John Jack – June 2024**

### **Areas of Responsibility:**

Chief Councillor  
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District  
Major Projects  
External Relations

### **General Duties – Chief Councillor**

#### **First Week:**

June began with an online meeting to prepare for a presentation I would be making as part of a panel at the Private Forest Lands Association AGM in Victoria, BC later that week. I then listened in on an SGIG Caucus Meeting that was taking place in Vancouver, but I connected online. The next day, we were supposed to attend the Premier's Forum in Tla'amin territory near Powell River, BC. The weather did not cooperate, and so I made the call to cancel our trip and connect online instead. It ended up being the right call as the Premier and most of his Cabinet also were not able to leave Victoria/Vancouver and connected online as well. On Wednesday, I flew over for a day trip to Vancouver to present to the Indigenous Partnerships Success Showcase 2024 at the main Conference Centre. The presentation went well, and then I jumped on a flight to head back to the Island in the afternoon. The Thursday was taken off as I finally was able to get a dental appointment to fix a broken tooth. That evening, I drove to Victoria to attend the Private Managed Forests Association AGM on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Second Week:**

Week Two began with a trip to Duncan to meet with Arliss, the Chief-Councillor of Pacheedaht, and her Forestry Manager(?). We had a good conversation about forestry, leadership and started to coordinate our efforts regarding forestry matters with BC. It was agreed that we should ensure that our next meeting includes Ditidaht now that their elections are over and their government has solidified. On the drive home, I spoke with a contractor on governance and issues management working with the ACRD and then did a bit of home office work. The 11<sup>th</sup> was a low-intensity day, where I mostly focused on getting ahead of emails, some phone and video calls, and general catch-up and keep-up. Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> was an ACRD day, with a Committee of the Whole in the morning and the Board of Directors in the Afternoon. I left early to ensure that I could attend a dinner to recognize and appreciate the Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department for their contributions to both our communities. It was great, I was happy to make it work and would like to thank the Vice-Chair of the ACRD, Deb Haggard, for making it happen. The following Thursday was a day for Executive Council. Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> was a raft of online meetings from 9:30am to 1pm, then I attended the opening of the new structure at the Beaver Creek Community Hall at 3pm on behalf of the Island Coastal Economic Trust.

#### **Third Week:**

The third week of June started with a Committee of the Whole meeting that included a conversation with RBC on the prospect of HFN citizens accessing loans to build their own houses. Afterwards, I connected with the Executive Director and had a quick check-in about future activities and considerations. On Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> we had a session regarding the HFN Framework Plan that culminated in an Open House at 5pm that day. Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> I had a

morning meeting regarding the ACRD, and then travelled to Bamfield for a Framework Plan Open House at the Rix Centre at the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre. On the 20<sup>th</sup>, there was both a Law and Policy Development Committee Meeting and then a meeting online with Minister Murray Rankin. I stuck around in Port Alberni for a presentation to Tseshaht Council regarding Inclusive Governance for the Regional District. Friday was an office closure for Indigenous People's Day, where we had an event in the Citizens' Private Sites at Pachena River and the Beach.

#### **Fourth Week:**

Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> began with an online meeting regarding Highway 4 Resiliency with a group working for the Province, and then the rest of the day was used to catch up on emails and general office work. That evening, I traveled to Vancouver for the First Nations Summit meetings between Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, though I ended up leaving a day early to ensure that I could attend a meeting with Federal Minister Anandasangaree in Ucluelet/Tofino. I was also able to attend an announcement by the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations in Tofino to witness their Ha'wiih starting up a process of reconciliation with the Federal Government. On the Friday, I attended a meeting of the LCAC's Advocacy Subgroup to work on moving several important multilateral initiatives forward with other Treaty and Treaty-like indigenous communities. The day concluded with a check-in on Inclusive Governance and then freed up the rest of the day for emails and general catch-up and keep-up work.

#### **Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Progress Report (and No Emerging Issues)**

I would like to ensure that we better prepare our organization for meaningful participation in some ACRD services that link to our strategic considerations, so if staff could ensure familiarity with how it all works, they can help identify pre-authorized Council decisions to allow me to commit resources to those services. This will need to be discussed at the Strategic Planning in September/October.

We are starting to work on what the referendum question will look like regarding the sewer project in the Bamfield area. We will need to have staff start participating actively to ensure we are well-informed and prepared.

#### **Major Projects – Progress Report**

HFN often participates in projects that are either quite large in scale/scope; or they have a degree of political importance that they are carried forward under the supervision of Council itself rather than being delegated to a committee or a department. These projects may include items identified as "special investment bodies" or they may be particularly important infrastructure or investment projects or potential partnerships or joint ventures. In any event, these items fall under Council's decision making, but the Chief-Councillor will be the lead on these items. In this instance, the major projects I have identified are two-fold: the Bamfield Road, which I have assigned to Councillor Brad Johnson by the time of this report due to his good oversight of the project since the last term of office; and the forestry-related initiatives related to our special investment bodies: Huumiis Ventures LP and Huu-ay-aht Forestry Consulting Services LP.

#### **Major Projects – Emerging Issues**

The initiatives covered by this file will likely take up a significant portion of my schedule. The Executive Director and I have instituted weekly check-ins to ensure that we minimize any negative

impact to all the other tasks at hand. Some of these have and will affect the timing and intensiveness of current and future audits, we need to consider this moving forward.

**External Relations – Progress Report (No emerging issues)**

We will have sent in our requests to the Provincial Government for direct meetings with Ministers at the Union of BC Municipalities meeting in Vancouver in September by now. We should hear back from them on which ones are accepted by mid to late August. We will have also selected a company for Government Relations by now, so there will be meetings scheduled to ensure that we can enact a strategy for achieving our interests with both the Provincial and Federal governments.

## **Chief Councillor John Jack – July 2024**

### **Areas of Responsibility:**

Chief Councillor  
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District  
Major Projects  
External Relations

### **General Duties – Chief Councillor**

#### **First Week:**

July began with a statutory holiday in Canada Day. Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> began lightly with emails, phone calls and quite a bit of reading in preparation for things related to the Land Claims Agreement Coalition activities, the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations, and our HFN Special Investment Bodies. In the late afternoon, I took time to prep our coolers and pickup fish from the Nation in Parksville. Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> was dominated by Framework Plan work in the morning, and more reading and office work but it also included slogging through the documents forwarded regarding work the Province is doing on various pieces of Legislation. We are included as a part of being a Modern Treaty Nation, so it is important to keep up on what's going on at the Legislature. Thursday began with our introductory meeting for Council with Earncliffe, the successful respondent to our External Relations RFP. I then immediately went into a meeting regarding the Alberni Valley Rail Corridor, and then took the afternoon to keep up on emails and have some forestry-related conversations with Shannon Janzen and Karl Stephens. On Friday, I took it easy at home as I wasn't feeling great, but I did follow up on some secondary emails and kept on top of materials for future meetings.

#### **Second Week:**

The second week was somewhat somber as I attended a funeral on that day, and then had a weekly bilateral with our Executive Director. The day ended with a meeting regarding the Bamfield Road that helped set our expectations and strategy for the future. Tuesday only had a couple meetings, one in the morning regarding LCAC-related items and a check-in on Inclusive Governance for the Regional District. The morning of the 10<sup>th</sup> was a quick meeting with Forum regarding the Framework Plan, then travel to Port Alberni for a quick check-in with HGB and then a meeting of Executive Council on team building and the governance project. We continued the meeting the following day, and then attended an awesome Graduation Celebration put on by HFN education and communications staff. We finished the team building and governance project meeting on Friday, and then went into a quick Council meeting that afternoon.

#### **Third Week:**

This was the first week of my Annual Leave. I did end up attending the first day of the Pachena Bay Music Festival, however.

#### **Fourth Week:**

This was the second week of my Annual Leave. I took one or two phone calls, but all in all, it was very refreshing.

## Ha'wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus – July/August 2024

### Areas of Responsibility:

Ha'wiih Council  
Citizenship Committee  
Nananiiqsu

### Ha'wiih Council

- Ha'wiih Council has hired a new Ha'wiih Clerk! Janet Young is our new clerk specifically for Ha'wiih. We are very excited and happy to work with Janet.
- Ha'wiih Council continues working on the Huu-ay-aht naming project. Some Ha'wiih will be starting to go over their lists for translations and name meanings. As well as beginning to look at preparations for future names to be given.
- Ha'wiih will work with the Youth Gathering Group for the upcoming date in Victoria BC on Saturday September 21, 2024. If it is anything like the Anacla Youth Gathering, it will surely be a success! The Anacla Youth Gathering went very well, the morning was a bit slow but it surely picked up in the afternoon! It was great to see Youth engaging in every aspect of this Gathering. There was a wonderful breakfast, followed by opening remarks and introductions by Councillor Edward Johnson and Qiic Qiica. There were many activities, a youth visioning workshop about where you come from, a nice lunch, then and Elders circle with Larry Johnson to discuss traditions, culture, storytelling and sharing within the circle, a wellness circle (alcohol and drug prevention), drum making, and a HFN booth on HFN departments. Dinner was amazing followed by some Traditional singing and dancing. Victoria and Port Alberni will have a survey for youth to fill out afterward.
- Huu-ay-aht days went well, waiting on their debriefing from that, it should be in soon.
- Ha'wiih met with the Cultural Team and have agreed to work on death protocols for each of their houses, as well as make every effort to attend culture practices to learn more songs and traditions. They will touch base on this at their next meeting. Practices will be held Sunday evenings alternating between hosting practices in Anacla and Port Alberni.
- Mel Edwards has volunteered to be appointed for the New Tribal Member.
- Theresa Nookemus and Tommy Happynook will join The Family Wellness and Mental Health Committee on an alternate basis. This committee will meet every 2 months.
- Ha'wiih Council has requested to hold a second meeting each month dedicated to governance where they invite cultural advisors and predecessors to come speak with them, form their Ha'wiih Charter and work to define their roles and responsibilities. This will enable Ha'wiih to have more broad and general discussions at one meeting and to deal with operational matters and requirements in the other meeting.
- Ha'wiih Council will be hosting the Christmas dinner December 14th at the Italian Hall.
- The Executive Council will be hosting the People's Assembly November 16, location still to be announced.
- Maryantonette, Stephen Rayner and Sylvain came to speak with Ha'wiih Council on proposed changes to the Community Safety Act- Exclusion Order Process. Ha'wiih expressed concerns with the current process. The RCMP are to come in to explain their role. Ha'wiih is working on a clear form to apply for an interim order. This meeting will take place Sept 9, 2024.
- Ha'wiih housed 2 citizens and are waiting for more information on another. The two citizens were housed in Jane's House.

### **Nanaaniqsu**

- Nanaaniqsu has been enjoying the summer off except for an invite to enjoy a lovely breakfast to hear an update on the HFN Framework Plan.
- They have also been approached by the Research Update and Oral History Gathering Phase 1 of their work on April 10,2024. This research group is based on the Ahousaht Nation. They are dedicated to researching their history of residential schools, searching for missing children and to supporting community healing as the truth of these experiences continues to impact families and communities.

## **Councillor ̓icitath̓ Edward R. Johnson – July 2024**

<https://huuayaht.org/councillor-edward-r-johnson/>

### **Area of Responsibility:**

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure  
Children and Family Wellness Committee  
Deputy-Chief Councillor

### **Anacla Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure**

#### Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Infrastructure Update meeting with HFN Project Manager.
- Chaired Anacla Community Planning Committee meeting - next committee meeting will be Sept 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Letter from BC in regard to short term rentals materials are in the correspondence
- Bi-weekly meetings with HFN team and MNP regarding Canadian Human rights Tribunal 41 submission.
- Attended a Maa-nulth Nations Internal Caucus - INF2 Policy Annex.
- Bamfield Community Hall WWTP request for hook up.
- Attended meeting with other Modern Treaty Nations & Ministry of Housing: BC Builds Program Overview - <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024HOUS0006-000188>.

#### Emerging Issues

- Canadian Human Rights Tribunal 41 submission - sounds like ISC is not going to fund our CCC for upper Anacla – will have to look at other funding opportunities.

### **Children and Family Wellness Committee**

<https://huuayaht.org/child-and-family-wellness-2/>

#### Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- HFN/Funding Model Per meeting - this meeting is to discuss our jurisdiction model, the challenges we have experienced in negotiating funding, and feedback for the provincial funding model.
- Met with Gwa'Sala-Nakwaxda'xw FN to talk about CFW and 91.2 agreements - was a good networking meeting.
- Met with CFW acting director to discuss protocol agreement with USMA. The existing protocol with USMA is 10 years old now. We are in the very early stages of the conversation - looking to bring to council at end of August.
- Attended Biweekly meetings with MNP.
- Maa-nulth Fiscal Process Update with H. McDonald.
- Attended Huu-ay-aht First Nations - British Columbia - Canada: Trilateral Coordination Agreement Discussion Main Table Meeting.
- Attended HFN/BC Bilateral meeting.
- Attended Jurisdiction Funding Model Co-Development – Modern Treaty Nations.

- Attended Oomiiqsu Logo Panel meeting.
- Don't Look Away report <https://rcybc.ca/hfaq/dont-look-away/> - How one boy's story has the power to shift a system of care for children and youth. **(This is a tough read).**
- Attended Youth Gathering planning meetings.
- Jurisdiction Funding Model Co-Development – Modern Treaty Nations.
- Received an invitation to the Tsow-Tun Le Lum Grand Opening on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Emerging Issues

- INDIGENOUS CHILDREN & FAMILIES – BARRIERS TO EXERCISING JURISDICTION

### **Deputy-Chief Councillor**

### Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- ACRD Inclusive Regional Governance Survey  
[https://corexmssn92khd9m9tzb.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2aH3CZ0EiGZweJU](https://corexmssn92khd9m9tzb.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2aH3CZ0EiGZweJU)
- CAG Newfoundland <https://www.cag-acq.ca/cag-2024-home>
- Had final Report Meeting with the NCN C-19 research team - should be receiving a draft report in six weeks. There were 56 HFN that participated in the survey, 45 that participated in the blood sampling, picture video and 8 participants for the talking circle. There were 19 total of 3 visits to the community. The draft report I feel is going to help with identifying the need for grief and loss services in the community that was a strong identifier early on in the research. Looking forward to hearing back on the final report, possibly by the middle of September or middle of October.
- Attended the Kackaamin Family Development Centre's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Attended a one-on-one meeting re the Governance Project.
- Attended the LCAC UNDRIP Subgroup meeting. Joint letter coming first week of August - coming from MTFN.
- Attended the Modern Treaty Alliance Gather at Tla'amin Territory  
<https://www.tlaamination.com/modern-treaty-alliance-gather-at-tlaamin-territory/>. At this meeting I received an invitation by Chief Anne Mack to attend a gathering on her homelands August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Attended the HFN Days planning group meeting
- Met with Kim Baird from Tsawwassen First Nation to talk about a visit to Huuayaht to network. Some of the things on the agenda for the visit on Sept 6<sup>th</sup> are: TFN approach to 15 year treaty review, our accountability and strategic planning cycle, org charts (and restructures) for both nations, land use, economic development, taxation, regulatory development, TFN Items Citizen Development structure and processes, HFN governance review (NRT funding) and HFN Coordination Table progress.
- Chaired the Committee of the Whole at PAGO.
- Biweekly meeting with Councillor Rayner.
- Executive Council team meeting and dinner day one of three of EC team meetings.
- Attended HFN Grad Celebration in Port Alberni at the Barclay Hotel.
- Attended HFN Youth gathering in Anacla and MC'd the gathering.
- Attended a gravel agreement discussion.
- Letter from WFP President and CEO Steven Hofer - WFP would like to return to the principles of the Reconciliation Protocol Agreement and work together to enhance Indigenous participation and revitalize the forest sector in the Alberni Valley and west coast of Vancouver Island.

- Attended CIRNAC - Allocation Approaches for Funding Initiatives (Fiscal Year 24/25) - Follow-up
- Pachena Bay Music Festival <https://hashilthsa.com/news/2024-07-20/get-flow-huu-ay-aht-welcome-flocks-festival-goers-pachena-bay>.
- LRTM Caucus Call.
- Chaired EC meeting.
- PREP w/Heather Castledon re: Review questions and begin discussing potential responses for Weaving Justice: Cedar Grant Oral Application.  
<https://www.lawfoundationbc.org/project-funding/weaving-justice-grants-call/#:~:text=There%20are%20several%20grant%20types%20contained%20in%20the,over%20a%20period%20of%20up%20to%20four%20years>.

### **Some news for the month of July**

- **Pachena Bay Music Festival seeks to ‘connect people with the land’**  
<https://hashilthsa.com/news/2024-07-04/pachena-bay-music-festival-seeks-connect-people-land>
- **B.C. and modern treaty nations herald a new era of land management**  
<https://hashilthsa.com/news/2024-07-17/bc-and-modern-treaty-nations-herald-new-era-land-management>
- [file:///C:/Users/edward.r.j/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/CX3YDG2W/2023-2024 Declaration Act Annual Report-embargoed%20\(003\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/edward.r.j/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/CX3YDG2W/2023-2024%20Declaration%20Act%20Annual%20Report-embargoed%20(003).pdf)
- <https://declaration.gov.bc.ca/>
- **B.C., Modern Treaty Nations collaborate on new approaches for treaty implementation** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024IRR0030-001052>
- **Connected Coast project update bulletin**  
<https://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/NDIT-IB-Connected-Coast-CBC-2024-v2.pdf>

## **Councillor Brad Johnson Report – July 2024**

### **Areas of Responsibility:**

Fisheries, Wildlife, Lands and Natural Resources  
Treaty Implementation  
Parks Canada Co-operative Management Board  
HR Workplace Wellness  
Special Project: The Bamfield Road

### **Bamfield Road Project**

- Monthly Inspections are being done by Meridian Forest Services. This month the road had a bit of damage. After the review, we recorded that approximately 0.02% of the road had been impacted with the remainder in good condition. The damaged areas of note are km 18, km 21, and km 44, which are small sections that have been repaired by Coastal Bridge. The main causes of road damage include heat, larger vehicles turning, and the public not driving according to road conditions and speed limits. The most significant factor is the heat, with road temperatures ranging from 136°F to 146°F. C+C recommends continuing road maintenance, primarily focusing on placing sand on spots that are flushing especially when the temperatures are hot.
- Moving forward, it is recommended we monitor the road closely and promptly identify any warranty issues and address them with the contractor for resolution. As the warranty period comes to an end in October 2024, a final review will be conducted in mid-August to allow time for any necessary repairs before the weather conditions become an issue and the warranty period expires. I am very pleased to see how quickly and promptly the road team acted on the damaged parts of the road and had it fixed.

### **Lands and Resources**

- On July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, I held a Lands Committee meeting -all committee members were in attendance. The topics of discussion were an update from the director on everything the department has been working on in the past year. Some of the highlights were:
  - HFN has signed a 3 year agreement with DFO for the Sarita chinook fishery (ESSR)
  - the nation had caught all our Barclay Sound Sockeye allocation for 2024
  - Green Crab invasive species removal and monitoring.
- The new business that we discussed was Land Purchasing and that some lands that are identified as potential parcels of land have a deadline of March 30<sup>th</sup> 2026 to acquire and convert to TSL. These lands are known as F1, F2 and F3. The committee made a recommendation to have these lands assessed for the value and we can then prioritize what lands we should go after as 2026 seems far away but actually is not when you think about how long each step takes.
- We also have some parcels of land that were purchased that still have a mortgage, so before those lands can be converted to TSL the remainder of the balance needs to be paid in full if we want to convert those lands in to TSL.
- We reviewed the TOR with no major changes and addressed the People's Assembly motion of Restitution of Ancestral lands.

## **Treaty Implementation**

- On July 29<sup>th</sup> 2024, I attended the Maa-Nulth Treaty Society Board of Directors meeting. Here is an update from working groups:

### **1) Maa-Nulth Fisheries committee (MFC)**

- All nations have been fishing Barclay Sound Sockeye, with most nations catching their allotted allocation for 2024. Halibut and salmon are being harvested by high capacity boats for all nations' food fish. Discussions around the crab IFMP will be brought forward in the fall with DFO and the Joint Fisheries Committee. Here we will discuss each nation's interest in crab and how commercial and recreational crab harvesting impacts nations in our MDFA. Maa-Nulth nations are interested in receiving training to complete prawn spawner index surveys. Reps from each Nation will participate in training in the fall. This training will be critical for nations to be able to participate and survey for our own data on prawns.
- Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative (PSSI): Significant progress has been made by HUU-ay-aht and DFO to finalize the terminal fishing arrangement for the Sarita Chinook Mark Selective Fishery. A 3-year agreement has been put in place. HFN staff will be collecting Coho genetic samples in July and August.

### **2) Maa-Nulth Wildlife Council**

- On July 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 the MWC met for our bimonthly meeting.
- In 2023, BC wildlife staff, in partnership with the Marmot Recovery Foundation, attempted to reintroduce marmots at 50/40 Peak in Maa-Nulth territory without prior engagement or communication. In response, MWC will seek MTS board approval for a letter of support reiterating expectations from BC for engagement on all wildlife work done in our respected territory.
- MWC is reviewing the Maa-nulth Wildlife Harvest Plan (2022-2027) to incorporate updated information on deer surveys, ungulate projects and reporting, and make administrative updates. Once the review is complete, MWC will recommend the Plan be reviewed and approved by the MTS Board, followed by the BC Minister responsible for wildlife.
- MWC and BC submitted a funding proposal to continue work on deer inventories, elk translocations and the Nahmint elk project. Funding decisions have been delayed but are expected in the coming weeks.
- Translocation of Elk is still a topic of interest. Nations are working on finding ways to find donor elk herds from other nations on the island.
- MWC has identified an opportunity to build relationships with BC ecosystems staff to learn more about the work the Province is doing around the region and identify opportunities for collaboration. MWC has invited the staff from the BC ecosystems team to attend an upcoming MWC meeting to do a presentation on their work.

### **3) Maa-Nulth Mraine Strategic Planning Working Group Monthly Update:**

- **Oceans Protection Plan – Proactive Vessel Management Initiative** - MSPWG has requested Transport Canada attend an upcoming meeting to discuss vessel anchorages in the MDFA and how the Proactive Vessel Management Initiative may address concerns. MSPWG is interested in opportunities to proactively identify safe anchorages and sites that require protection and monitor anchorages in Maa-nulth territories.

- **Open Net-Pen Aquaculture Transition** - On June 19, 2024, DFO announced that the ban on open net-pen aquaculture in BC will come into effect by June 30, 2029. A draft transition plan is expected by July 31, 2024, followed by engagement with First Nations. MSPWG representatives will connect with other Nations to hear their experiences with DFO and will arrange a meeting with DFO to identify next steps once the transition plan is released.

#### **4) Salmon Allocation Policy:**

- DFO is engaging on the development of a Salmon Allocation Policy (SAP). Engagement is occurring through the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations, the First Nations Fisheries Council, and Maa-Nulth collective and bilateral discussions. We are drafting a matrix of the SAP, related Maa-Nulth interests, issues and engagement pathways to inform next steps and the engagement approach. Legal support is reviewing a draft response letter to DFO, context language of the draft policy, and a common Property discussion paper.

#### **5) MeToo Negotiations:**

- No meetings have been set up since DFO have left the negotiations tables. We are still trying to schedule a meeting with the Minister of DFO. Maa-Nulth nations have expressed we would like to push hard in the early fall to get these negotiations back on track.

#### **6) Alliance of Modern Treaty Nations (MTN):**

- On June 4<sup>th</sup>, along with other members of council, I attended the Premier's forum. Unfortunately, on this day the weather played a factor for most people not being able to meet in person, so the meeting took place via zoom.
- A big win that was talked about was the co-development of the fiscal model for the treaty property tax reform that did receive Royal Assent. Premier Eby and his cabinet recognize treaty is the highest form of reconciliation as it was mentioned several times throughout the meeting.
- Other topics that were addressed were the children and family funding service model and that it needs more time to co-develop and that we as MTNs feel we should not have to compete with the FNLC for funding opportunities, and experience budget cut outs. The water shed security funding of 100M was used as an example - BC was not aware that nations must compete with one another for this grant funding.
- Overall, it was a successful meeting. Not a lot of promise came out of the meeting as it is an election year and that plays a big factor.

### **Parks Canada**

- On July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024, I attended the West Coast Trail Management Plan meeting #12. Here we discussed the final stages of approval of the Management Plan and the State of the Park document that was worked on earlier this year. HFN has approved both documents by the CMB. We are still waiting for neighboring Nations to approve the document. Moving forward once we have full approval from the nations it will be sent to Parks Canada's vice president for final approval. In the next few months, we will co-develop a communications plan then it will be released to the public. Later this year we will be working on planning

considerations with objective and targets for the next 10 years of the West Coast Trail and our respected territory. Next meeting will be scheduled for late September 2024.

Overall it was a busy month, I felt I was very productive in all my tasks. I am honored to represent our Nation as a member of Executive Council.

## **Councillor Evan Cook Report – July 2024**

### **Areas of Responsibility:**

Finance  
Economic Development

### **Finance**

- The Finance committee met on July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024.
- The First Quarter Financials and Cash Flow Statements were presented. The financial health and performance of all departments remains very positive.
- The Committee is discussing Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) for all government employees and elders' pension. This adjustment will be applied annually, usually in January, if passed by all parties. Also in discussion are increases in pay for all committee members.
- The finance committee made the decision to keep the nations funds in a savings account, as opposed to a GIC account in which interest rates were less than a savings account - which is beneficial when we compound interest rates.

### **Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA)**

- The final amended agreement with language changes is almost complete and to be presented next month to MTN. As of this writing the final agreement was signed by the nation. The nation will be receiving more funding for land and resources, housing, governance funding and delivery of agreed upon services to provide essential services to citizens.

### **Economic Development**

#### **Salish Elements (Green Hydrogen)**

- An Agreement in Principle between Salish Elements and HFN was received from Salish which will be forwarded to Legal for language and respective parties' agreements.
- A meeting was also held with the Port Alberni Port Authority to introduce Salish Elements plans to export Green Hydrogen Internationally and usage of the product locally.

#### **Dicinfoam Update**

- A meeting was held between Paper Excellence and proponents and the company sees a real potential opportunity but are suspicious of the financials. We will continue to do our due diligence into the financials. The company recommends Crofton for the pilot project as sludge can be hauled there, and Chips returned to the P.A. plant.

#### **Growcer – Food Sovereignty Project**

- The EDO will be having a meeting with Growcer (modular food services) on a feasibility study into a Container Green House, to grow and provide fresh vegetables and fruit year-round for the Anacla community.

### **Summit Log Cabins Update**

- The EDC in our recent meeting decided to look at other sites for the cabins, like first beach and Anacla campgrounds.

## **Councillor Stephen Rayner – July 2024**

### **Areas of Responsibility:**

Law and Policy  
Green Energy and Climate Sustainability

### **Law and Policy**

- The Law and Policy committee reviews and provides recommendations for all legislative alterations or development.
- At July's law and policy meeting, we reviewed the governance project, assessed the current state, and redefined prioritized next steps. The initial focus will be on examining legislation related to community safety to ensure it aligns with the community's needs, but we have expanded that to accommodate the work needed for Economic development. This project aims to enhance our legislative framework, reflecting our values and objectives.
- These discussions are part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen our legislative and policy framework, ensuring it meets the Huu-ay-aht community's needs and aligns with our long-term goals.
- Last fall, the People's Assembly approved a comprehensive law and policy review to assess our progress since the Treaty and ensure our laws reflect traditional values and practices. The review has identified key areas for improvement and will engage the community for feedback. The initial focus is on the Community Safety Act and related legislation, followed by financial and economic development laws, with the goal of systematically improving our legal framework to better serve the community.

### **Emerging Issues:**

- Advancing work in a way that meets the intended deadlines. Trying to accommodate priority legislation and accommodate emerging priorities.

### **Green Energy and Climate Sustainability**

#### **Solar upgrades for Anacla Government Office:**

- HUU-ay-aht First Nations have been approved for a clean energy pilot project I was able to develop. This will include the installation of solar panels, battery storage, and electric vehicle chargers as well as upgrading the electrical system to accommodate the innovative technology. It also includes training and maintenance of the system. This will significantly reduce our dependency on the grid and diesel generator. The consultant has procured the required equipment and has coordinated the initial work needed to support the overall installation. Work should be implemented in the next month. This work is aiming to be completed this summer.

#### **Community Energy Plan:**

- I am not directly involved with this initial project; the infrastructure department is managing it. Barkley Project Group has completed the first phase of the Community Energy Plan, which aims to identify all feasible green energy power generation options within the HFN

territory. The final report from this plan will be instrumental in developing future opportunities for green power development.

- HFN has received funding from the Low Carbon Economy Challenge Fund (LGCAP), and a portion of this will be allocated to a second phase of energy planning focused on one or two forms of clean power generation.
- Other funding we will be looking to apply for will be through the BC Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative (BCICEI) when the next intake opens. Our goal is to identify a sustainable power source that meets both current and future energy needs through clean energy development. This second phase feasibility study will offer a deeper analysis of the potential for large-scale green energy projects, particularly focusing on wind and solar energy. A combination of these sources may be essential to meet our nation's power requirements.
- This will be a combination of the Infrastructure and Economic Development departments to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) which will aim to procure a consultant who will lead the work on behalf of HFN.
- Additionally, I have a meeting scheduled with the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation at the upcoming UBCM to lobby for their support in HFN's clean energy development efforts.

#### **Carbon Footprint and Green House Gas Emissions:**

- Unfortunately, we did not meet the requirements for the last round of funding but will be working to apply for upcoming funding in September. This funding will allow for a feasibility study identifying areas where we can reduce our carbon footprint and provide next steps for planning and implementation. HFN is already exploring a project for carbon offset.
- Councillor Stella Peters and I attended a first nations climate summit to discuss the environmental issues nations face. Then we discussed some potential remedies and how nations are dealing with the climate crisis.

#### **Multi Nation Energy Development:**

- Multiple nations across British Columbia are showing strong interest in developing green energy initiatives. During our meetings, we discuss opportunities to support each other's power development projects. The idea of a First Nations Power Authority, which would involve multiple nations in owning, managing, and distributing power across Vancouver Island, is gaining significant traction. This collaboration could be both financially rewarding and set the stage for long-term success.
- In my discussions with the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation, they expressed strong support for First Nations leading clean energy development. Clean Energy BC also supports the creation of a First Nations Power Authority and is actively working to advance this initiative.

#### **Clean Energy BC Board of Directors:**

- I sit on the government relations committee and permitting and regulatory committees. These committees provide significant information on the existing state of the provincial and federal governance to help first nations communities better navigate the political climate. The permitting and regulatory committee helps provide information on the regulatory process for clean energy development and operation as well as helps guide the regulatory agencies on how to best alter the existing regulatory framework. The next board meeting

occurs in September and we will be discussing the rollout of the 2024 call for power and the proposed 2026 call for power.

- This will help advance Huu-ay-aht's interest as well as first nations interest in developing power infrastructure and interconnectivity for our communities. It is beneficial for First Nations to have representation on the board to make sure they are receiving equal support in their endeavors to develop clean energy.
- I continue to lobby at events to push the provincial government to support the advancement of First Nations energy infrastructure development.

### **Climate resiliency:**

- This month Councilor Stella Peters and I attended a climate leadership gathering. The event was great with nations around the island attending and providing input on climate challenges we're all facing and steps to move forward together to start to mitigate them.
- We continue to meet and discuss planning and development of climate mitigation measures in our territory.
- The Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaption intake deadline is October 4th. A portion of the planning will come from LGCAP, which we have already received. We will be working with administration to determine the scope of work, priority and where the work will land in the administration. I have met with the funders to advance their support. The planning will be focused on territory-wide climate resiliency planning. This plan will cover wildfires, hydrology/ flood resiliency, extreme heat, shore erosion, as well as some seismic mitigation. This will incorporate all the existing data Huu-ay-aht has developed on the effects of climate change within our territory.

### **Emerging Issues:**

- With climate change having such an extreme effect on our territory, it is important to complete this work to mitigate future climate related disasters.

### **HFN Planning/Capital Raise**

- The planning project continues to advance and is making great progress. The planners have collected information required to continue their work and meet the proposed timelines for deliverables. This project will provide opportunities that are well thought out and informed.
- Continue efforts to develop capital raise opportunities, such as industrial-scale wind projects, which will be included in our second phase of clean power feasibility studies in our territory. These wind projects, along with other initiatives, could provide the long-term power supply HFN needs for generations. Additionally, explore opportunities for multi-nation investment in electrical infrastructure to connect communities and support individual nation power production. This approach would not only ensure reliable power for each community but also offer financial benefits to all participating nations.

### **Meetings/Events: (a few of the meetings I attended this month)**

- BCAFN climate leadership meeting.
- Framework planning meeting, GR relations meeting.
- Governance project meeting
- Meeting with industry, Boralex, Inenergex, WPD, etc.

- EC meetings.
- Call with funders.
- Biweekly meetings with councilors.
- HFN grad celebration.
- EC team meeting.
- Law and policy meeting.
- Committee of the whole.
- GR committee meeting CEBC.
- Continue to meet with leadership of nations around BC to discuss the development of clean energy and a first nations power authority.
- Meeting with Ha'wiih.

