



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

**Executive Council Report
October 2024**

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Chief Councillor John Jack – October 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Chief Councillor
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
Major Projects
External Relations

General Duties – Chief Councillor

First Week:

The first week started off mid-week with our first day of an Indigenous Law Workshop in Port Alberni. It was the day after the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day concluded with a virtual Open House for the Huu-ay-aht Framework Plan. Wednesday the 3rd had the conclusion of the Indigenous Law Workshop that I missed due to taking a heavy fall down my steps and rolled my ankle very seriously. I ended up taking the day to get to the doctor, and thankfully after quick x-rays, it was not broken – though very serious. I took the next day to attend a Board of Governors meeting for North Island College online, and little else. Friday the 4th was my first day trying to walk without crutches, and it wasn't very successful. I ended up taking the day to recover, I would like to thank Councillor Brad Johnson for the suggestion that I try out an ankle brace, which I received on the weekend and made the following busy week even possible.

Second Week:

Monday the 7th saw me travel to Vancouver via Helijet to attend a meeting regarding forestry at Western Forest Products' office, then attend a Community Engagement Session in Burnaby, and then attend the Indigenous Business Awards at the Hotel Vancouver. The next day, I headed back to Nanaimo and then drove to Victoria for the next Community Engagement Session on the Community Safety Act prospective amendments. This was the first day that I was able to walk without too much pain, though the ibuprofen probably helped there. Wednesday the 9th began with online meetings regarding the Island Rail Study, a meeting of the SGIG/LCAC Nations regarding advocacy, and then a Board Meeting of the ACRD. The next day, October 10th, was a drive to Anacela for an Executive Council Meeting followed by a Community Engagement Session. I attended a planning meeting for the keynote panel discussion at a future Conference of the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance. The week ended with a meeting of the Law and Policy Development Committee meeting on Friday the 11th, followed by a meeting with Tseshaht, and the last Community Engagement Session in Port Alberni.

Third Week:

Monday the 14th was Thanksgiving Monday, and thus a statutory holiday. I took most of Tuesday off given the time spent at CES over the past week once the Committee of the Whole meeting was postponed. I did attend a crucial Bamfield Area Services Committee meeting that evening to recommend the referendum questions for the upcoming sewer service votes. Wednesday the 16th was spent watching my middle child who was home sick, so I attended an ACRD meeting online, then spent time planning for my weeklong trip to Ottawa starting October 27th. Thursday the 17th was spent prepping for and driving to Ucluelet for a meeting the next day for the purpose of

Inclusive Regional Governance which was held on the Friday, October 18th to some good success.

During the weekend following this workweek, we had an atmospheric river weather event that led to catastrophic flooding in some areas. Over the next days, two Bamfield residents would lose their lives in that flooding. This affected not only the people of Bamfield, but Huu-ay-aht as well. Condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of Ken Duncan and Bob Baden - their loss is deeply felt.

Fourth Week:

Both Monday the 21st and Tuesday the 22nd were largely taken up by interviews with media about the flooding and loss of life. I did interviews with Chek, CTV, Global and CBC. We also attended the Bamfield Road Safety Association on the Tuesday evening, and delivered both our condolences and our conviction to help ensure that this does not happen again. Wednesday the 23rd, I attended the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance Conference in Nanaimo where I was a part of the keynote panel and a subsequent panel on indigenous partnerships in forestry with Seanna McConnell of Western Forest Products and Shannon Janzen of Hypha Consulting as moderator. And while it is not work related, I was finally able to attend an extracurricular class for my youngest child after hours. Thursday the 24th, I took away from my duties to attend the strategic planning session of North Island College in Campbell River. Friday the 25th was a Pro-D Day for most school districts, but I was able to attend to a meeting of the Island Coastal Economic Trust as Acting Chairperson, where I was acclaimed as Vice-Chair for another year's term.

Fifth Week:

The week began on the Sunday, October 27th, where I flew to Ottawa for the week in support of the Self-Governing Indigenous Governments (SGIG) group and the Land Claims Agreements Coalition (LCAC) as well as Huu-ay-aht interests. The 28th was a day for preparation meetings mostly, though we did meet with NDP MP Charlie Angus as a kickoff to our full court press on federal engagement. The Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday were typified by meetings with Liberal, NDP and Conservative MPs to put forward our federal strategy with LCAC and the SGIGs, but also to connect on Huu-ay-aht specific topics such as fisheries (Me Too), general economic development and our efforts in child and family wellness. The last day was capped off with a meeting with NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh, Indigenous Critic Idlot, and BC NDP MP Taylor Bachrach. As ever, I was in direct contact with our local MP Gord Johns who is a strong ally to Huu-ay-aht and Nuu-chah-nulth.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Progress Report (and Emerging Issues)

The referendum questions were set at the ACRD for the prospective East and West Bamfield Liquid Waste project and service. Communication appears to be straightforward, though it does seem like Bamfield residents are quite wary of accepting the project since it will impact their wallets – what strikes me is that we've already taken care of the cost of building the thing, so the costs are already quite reduced. In this political environment, though, BC and Canadian citizens are quite cautious with spending that they have a direct say in, even if it's vital future infrastructure that will only get more expensive as time goes by.

It is likely that the vote on the sewer project as it relates to Bamfield will fail, and likely spectacularly. The residents and owners in Bamfield are quite concerned about ongoing costs of taxation, and while I can see their point, I do think that this is the best deal that residents and owners will get on hooking into the sewer system. The costs of hooking up will likely only go up

given how labour and material costs are going. At some point, folks will want to upgrade their properties, rezone their land, and potentially redevelop to take advantage of the economic development that will be taking place. Now, they'll have to take whatever costs come at that stage in the future rather than a set and steady rate now. Whether their decision is wise will remain to be seen, but costs, as ever, go up.

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)

This will have been the first major test for Earnscliffe in regards to my trip to Ottawa and meetings with MPs, senior political staff, and senior bureaucrats. With the support of Earnscliffe I am quite content in our ability to get meetings, create movement and communicate our points across. This is in contrast to some of the difficulties we had working with SGIG and LCAC support, which wasn't as robust for various reasons. I am quite happy with the quality and dependability of the analysis and direct support of Earnscliffe thus far, and I look forward to continuing moving Huu-ay-aht work forward with them on a federal and provincial level.

Ha'wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus – October 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Ha'wiih Council
Citizenship Committee
Nananiqsu
Economic Development (Reporting only)

Ha'wiih Council

- Ha'wiih Clerk Janet Young will be going on maternity leave by the end of November. Janet is due early December. Ha'wiih is looking forward to a new arrival!
- This Council continues to work within their houses on the naming project. This project is moving along as Ha'wiih are now going over their lists with a chosen language speaker of their choice.
- Ha'wiih continues to work with Kae-Lynn Johnson and the Youth Group. The final Youth Group Gathering was Sat, Sept 26th in Port Alberni at the Barclay Hotel Ballroom. It went from 9am to 6 pm. The Youth Group ended with a fantastic Halloween dance, with a live DJ and a 360 Photobooth.
- Ha'wiih Council will soon begin to meet twice a month to be dedicated to governance for one meeting the second meeting will be dedicated to culture.
- Ha'wiih continues to work on the Ha'wiih Charter. This will help define the Ha'wiih role and its responsibilities.
- Ha'wiih has continued working with Law & Policy Committee on the Community Safety Act-Exclusion Order Process to clear gaps and timing issues.
- Ha'wiih is hosting the Christmas dinner to be held on Dec 15th at the Italian Hall in Port Alberni. There will be vendors, an "ugly sweater" contest and of course a visit from a jolly red-suited man who is known to pop in around this time of year!

Citizenship Committee

- This committee reviewed the Application Process Under the Law. The Acting law clerk presented the Citizen and Treaty enrolment by committee then reviewed again for citizenship after being placed in a Maht Mahs by Ha'wiih Council. A review of Treaty Enrolment Applications passed 3 citizens. And the Review of Citizenship Applications passed 1 citizen.

Nanaaniqsu

- Nananiqsu has begun fund raising for them to go to Hoobiyee this year. They had their first hot lunches at both Government offices which went well. There will also be collection jars at both offices, bake sales and toonie draws which they are collecting items for. A reminder to connect with Farah from Alberni Pharmacy for your Free Elders Package (It is quite worth your while)!

Councillor Aicitah Edward R. Johnson – October 2024

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

Our Strategic Plan 2024-2029 https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Strategic-Plan-2024-2029_Final.pdf

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

- Bi-weekly Infrastructure check-in
- **Wonderful news!** Oomiiqsu application funds came in - 3.7M and 113K for a 17-passenger Van.
- Attended the Bamfield Road Safety Association
- The Project Manager Fulltime Position was posted - closing date was the 21st of October and The Infrastructure and Capital Projects Specialist - Thursday, October 31, 2024.
- Looking to set up a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer Margaret from Aboriginal Housing Management Association link on AHMA <https://ahma-bc.org/membership-and-partnerships/ahma-membership/>. This connection was made at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities through Matt Hartney.

Emerging Issues

- Fire boxes
- Campground
- HOH

Children and Family Wellness Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Attended Indigenous Law Workshop in Port Alberni.
- Working on a briefing note to EC re: CFS jurisdiction update - coming to EC soon.
- Reviewing Draft Documents from MNP in regard to CHRT-41 applications Project Update. MNP has been engaged in providing capital project coordination services since February 2024. Original scope involved the development of individual project plans and a final consolidated project plan (the "Plan") for ten identified capital initiatives: Anacla Playground, House of Huu-ay-aht, Indoor Pool, Play space (Bike/Skate Park), Road Improvements, Safe House, Second Stage Housing, Soaring Eagle Community Centre (Improvements), Wellness Centre, Youth Centre. There should be a good update coming to executive council before December break.
- Attended Our Children Our Way Conference <https://ourchildrenourway.ca/ocow2024/> where I attended the following sessions:

- Empowering Indigenous Voices Session: Speaking Up, Speaking Out, and Sharing Healing Wisdom by the Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society. This session encapsulated the YAC's commitment to empowering Indigenous youth and fostering healing. Through their advocacy, the YAC emphasizes the importance of respecting Indigenous youths' rights, identities, and aspirations within the care system. Their work highlights the need for systemic changes that prioritize the well-being and future prospects of young individuals in care.
- Teachings from an RCY Sacred Story Harvest and Systemic Review Office of the Representative for Children and Youth. RCY has completed a Sacred Story Harvest about the session (investigation) into the tragic death of an Indigenous boy who was in the care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The interactive session reviewed the teachings from this child's story, and findings from a Systemic Review of the child and family serving system that drew from it. Nine key areas for systemic change were identified and each of these has informed the RCY's call for more transformative changes across multiple areas of ministerial responsibility if we are to truly support children and families to thrive. A critical area highlighted is that of comprehensive and robust attention to the transitional period for First Nations who are resuming jurisdiction over child welfare in their communities, and the workshop focused its attention here. The sacred story harvest and the systemic review were conducted with guidance from three Cultural Advisors. These Elders guided all of the work through sacred teachings and ceremony, shared learnings from this in the workshop. The workshop highlighted how the Systemic Review involved well over 1,000 people from across B.C. and First Nations through extensive engagement and visioning opportunities. RCY staff engaged with families, caregivers, service providers, MCFD staff, rights and title holders, First Nations and Metis leadership through diverse means including online and in-person working sessions, interviews, focus groups and presentations, as well as surveys and written submissions. Through this, the team has identified key enablers and detractors and opportunities for meaningful change. Here is the link for the report <https://rcybc.ca/hfaq/dont-look-away/>. I had a great conversation with Dr. Jennifer Charlesworth. Jennifer has heard a lot about our nation and am looking forward to connecting in the future. **The report is a difficult read – caution!**
- Ka Wiidanokiindiwag: a Peguis approach to Child and Family Services. Peguis Child and Family Services Peguis First Nation is the first in Manitoba to enact child welfare legislation under Bill C-92 with Honouring Our Children, Family and Nation Act which came into force January 21, 2022. Peguis Child and Family Services will share our path toward reconciliation with our families, using innovative and groundbreaking best practices to keeping families together through Peguis First Nation Law, Alternatives to the Court Process and Signs of Safety. The presentation shared a case study of best practices in service delivery which offers ways to empower children, youth and parents to be at the center of planning and decision-making for their family. The highlights: Best Interests of the Child, Priority to Prevention Services, Equitable Service and Cultural Continuity by way of Family Sharing Circle, Community Circle of Care, Customary Care Agreements, Customary Acceptance, Elders Council, and Extension of Services. We invite other Nations, communities and agencies to learn from Peguis' journey to thus far as ka wiidanoklindiwag (we work together).. <https://www.peguisccfs.ca/>
- Utilizing Immediate Measures on the Path to Jurisdiction – facilitated by MNP. While there are several immediate measures available to Indigenous Governing Bodies, only a handful of nations are realizing their full potential. The presentation explored how Indigenous Governing Bodies can leverage existing funding sources

to build and ground effective service delivery models in traditional teachings and cultural practices. Participants received insight into how they can better access, harness, and track resources - and create immediate and impactful change on the path to jurisdiction. Based on the firsthand experience of the session facilitators, the session will use practical examples and provide actionable steps to prepare jurisdiction teams for the Coordination Table process. I attended this session with a representative from the Alliance of Modern Treaty Nations.

- AMC-HFN Meeting on Request for Alliance Support re Implementing CFS Jurisdiction.
- Attended a very touching and moving ceremony in Duncan with CFW team. In the ceremony, I was able to call our ancestors into the court room in Duncan to witness a child coming out of CCO. The ceremony continued outside the courtroom where the judge participated and witnessed. It was great to witness two nations working together to create change in the system.
- Attended HFN team Jurisdiction Check ins.
- Canceled: Huu-ay-aht First Nations - British Columbia - Canada: Trilateral Coordination Agreement Discussion Main Table Meeting due to interregnum period.
- Setting up a side meeting with FNHA Regarding Oomiiqsu to see if FNHA can support Oomiiqsu in anyway.
- Interviews taking place this month for Oomiiqsu - Tenant Support Worker.
- Attended Joint Child and Family Wellness and Mental Health Committee and Law and Policy Development Committee Meeting
- UBCM follow up - early childcare education and workplace training - setting up meeting with NIC in PA.
- Meeting with NIC Topic for discussion: Early childcare education and workplace training.
- Topics for this two-day All Chiefs Meeting will include the experiences of First Nations in B.C. as they resume jurisdiction over child and family services, insights from the Representative for Children and Youth, discussions on Jordan's Principle and ongoing Canadian Human Rights.
- Special Chiefs Assembly Meeting on Long-Term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program. <https://afn.ca/events/sca-fncfs/>

Emerging Issues

- Deloitte Needs Assessment
- Concerns on youth/community bullying
- Commitment from MIRR for the remaining \$1.2M in operational funds

Deputy-Chief Councillor

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Attended ?Apwinisathh Family Luncheon. Not many attended - I was asked to attend last minute. The head of the house received the name su?iyaakuut, Angie Peters held this name for a number of years. It comes from kildonan and it means that she is holding the strings of the thunderbird.
- Attended Community Engagement Sessions in Victoria, Anacla and Port Alberni on Response to the Inquiry Report on Community safety.
- Setting COW Agenda.
- Chaired Executive Council Meeting.

- Meeting with MOTI Kevin Richter Associate Deputy Minister at our AGO. This was a very good productive meeting we, as an order trading nation, need to push for the designation of a public road - need to orchestrate how this will carry out once our government is in. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/transportation-infrastructure/contracting-to-transportation/highway-bridge-maintenance> - the link here is exactly what we need - a designation so then we can have the road contracted out for maintenance and repair - giving our road the attention that it needs.
- Attended Memorial for Nona Thompson at the maht mahs.
- Follow-up from the UBCIC meeting with Rachel Holt <https://veridianecological.ca/>.
- Confirmed this month that I'll be attending the 50th year celebration of Modern Treaties at the Land Claims Agreement /coalition in February in Gatineau, Quebec <https://web.cvent.com/event/14b07c5f-9fb2-4970-8783-82cfb58983e9/summary>
- <https://www.tfl44lp.com/>

Other news in October:

- Silvicola Film Tour: Vancouver Island <https://sierraclub.bc.ca/silvicola-film-tour-vancouver-island/>
- <https://earnscliffe.ca/insight/2024-10-09-voter-trends-in-bcs-battleground-ridings/>
- <https://hashilthsa.com/news/2024-10-10/nitinaht-tragedy-highlights-inadequate-road-signage-says-ditidaht>
- <https://hashilthsa.com/news/2024-10-21/fatal-weekend-bamfield-road-heavy-rain-causes-washout-sarita-river>
- <https://hashilthsa.com/news/2024-10-17/alberni-valley-job-market-soars-monthly-postings-doubling-pre-pandemic-numbers> Brown shared the new Oomiiqsu (Aboriginal Mother Centre) housing development, for example, recently posted 22 positions for Tenant Support Workers.

Councillor Brad Johnson Report – October 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

- As of October 1st, 2024, HFN is no longer responsible for the maintenance of the chip seal surface. It has been handed back to the two forestry companies who have road use agreements in place with the province. After what seemed to be a long year of road maintenance, overall, the chip seal has held up very well and that minimal warranty work was completed throughout the year.

Lands and Natural Resources

- This month we held a Lands and Natural Resources Committee meeting on October 30th, 2024. Here the acting director gave a verbal report on what the department has been doing. Here are some highlighted activities:
 - HIRMP TFL 44 wide plan
 - Emergency program and spill response
 - automated camping/permitting
 - fiber optic at Sarita
 - hiring a lands planner
 - Blue carbon water shed renewal
 - wildlife camera network/ elk population
 - expanding the guardian program to full time/ Training and courses
 - Food fish program
 - fall salmon count at the klanawa
 - marine monitoring/green crab removal
 - a seal harvest with the warriors, seal hide tanning and marine safety grant for citizens.
- I would just like to acknowledge all the hard work that the department has worked on the past year and this is just half the list of updates as this was a very informative report.
- We reviewed some old business from last year's People's Assembly regarding the motion on Restitution of Ancestral lands where we discussed that the nation has already been doing so and that citizens do have access to our lands and wildlife with the proper permits that we have in place. We also reviewed the benefits that citizens have with our harvest cards to harvest Fish and Aquatic plants, Wildlife, Youth Hunting Authorization, Gathering in provincial and federal protected areas, and Migratory birds.
- The HUU-ay-aht Group of Business presented a presentation on campgrounds/ concept and expanding throughout the territory mainly in the Sarita/ Poett Nook area. Their hope is to have 500 active campsites in the years to come as camping has had a beneficial return economically for HGB. This presentation was more of an FYI to the committee as there were no decisions needed, just feedback and ideas for HGB. Overall the committee was happy with the preliminary concept and the idea of more camping in the territory.

- On this day we also reviewed and approved the Residential Lease Regulation as in the lot plan. These are the 5 lots that the nation approves each year for citizens to build their own homes in upper Anacla. These lots come ready with sewer, water and hydro hookups in this subdivision. If citizens would like to inquire about these lots, they should do so with the Lands and Resources Director.
- A presentation was given by the Acting Lands Director at the time on Permitting, Leasing and Licensing within our Treaty settlement lands. This presentation was very informative and will be made public. It answers and explains the process and steps it takes for the above topics. You can find this presentation on our website in months to come.

Treaty Implementation

- On October 28th, 2024, I attended the Maa-Nulth Treaty Society (MTS) monthly Board of Directors meetings. Here is an update from working groups:

Maa-Nulth Fisheries Committee (MFC):

Three recommendations came from the MFC to the MTS board and they were:

- That MTS, on behalf of the Maa-nulth First Nations, send a formal request to DFO to enter into the crab access and management process, similar to the Central Coast Collaborative Crab Management Process.
- That MTS support individual Maa-nulth Nations implementing interim commercial and recreational crab fishing closures within their territories.
- That MTS on behalf of the Maa-nulth First Nations, send a formal request to DFO to consider and discuss the Maa-nulth Terminal Coho Salmon Allocation Proposal at the November JFC.

Maa-nulth Marine Strategic Planning Working Group (MSPWG):

Four recommendations came from the MSPWG to the MTS board and they were:

- Submission of a collective letter to DFO with Maa-Nulth's concerns regarding the Ghost-written Draft Salmon Allocation Policy.
- Submission of a collective letter to DFO with Maa-Nulth's comments on the draft Open Net-Pen Aquaculture Transition Plan.
- Submission of a collective letter to CCG with Maa-Nulth's concerns with de-staffing lighthouses on the West Coast of Vancouver Island.
- Have Larry Johnson and Alternate (if applicable) - Bob Bocking be considered for nomination for the position of First Nation Commissioner for the Pacific Salmon Committee

CMTI update:

The First reading of Bill C-77- the act respecting the Commissioner Modern Treaty Implementation (CMTI) - was introduced into legislation on Oct 10th, 2024.

Nisga vs Mali:

The MTS board received an update that the Nisga people will be challenging the court appeal with the Supreme Court of Canada. Modern treaty nations are expected to write a letter of support for the Nisga. I can confirm that Maa-Nulth Nations have done so.

Mee Too Update:

- MTS were going to try connecting with senior staff regionally with DFO to try and set up future meetings. There is still a push from leadership to have a meeting with the Minister of DFO.

Parks Canada

- No scheduled meetings occurred; however, I did speak to the Superintendent of Pacific Rim National Park regarding the lighthouse closure of the Pachena Point and Carmanah light house stations. I stressed that we as a nation were not consulted by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans who decided to close these buildings on the west coast, and the importance these light stations have to our Huu-ay-aht fishermen and mariners on the water. Next meeting with Parks Canada is scheduled for next month.

HR Workplace and Wellness

- The committee met on October 29th, 2024, with all members present. A review of the Ombudsman program was introduced to the committee. Here we discussed the benefits this program will bring to the nation once it's implemented. This program is a 3rd party individual who is not a part of the organization. This individual will be neutral, transparent and will give fairness to employees as they follow policy. This program is being used by other Governments, non-for-profit societies, and a lot of First Nation organizations as it is 100% confidential. A website and 1-800 phone number is being set up so staff can feel comfortable using this program in the near future.
- We reviewed a GAP analysis that was done for the Lands and Resources, Finance, and Child Family Services departments. These reports were highly confidential so I cannot go into great detail, but I would like to acknowledge the work that was done so we can start to correct or fix these problems within the organization department by department.
- We reviewed staff attire guidelines. Recently the nation has been getting reports of staff or former staff wearing HFN branding clothing out in the public and not acting within our guiding principal of Isaak (Respect). Some guidelines were created for review and are effective as of September 25th, 2024. Please see guidelines below;

1. Authorized Use of HUU-AY-AHT Staff Attire:

- HUU-AY-AHT Government staff attire, including jackets, shirts, and hats, must only be worn during official HUU-AY-AHT Government operations (i.e., High-official meetings or events).
- Staff attire is used when an employee's identification as a representative of the HUU-AY-AHT Government is required for their duties.
- Employees must ensure their appearance is readily distinguishable from others working in the same area when on duty.

2. Representation and Role Model Expectations:

- All employees are expected to uphold the HFN Oath, HR values, and guiding principles both during operational hours and outside of them.
- As representatives of the Huu-ay-aht Government, employees serve as role models for Huu-ay-aht citizens and are expected to conduct themselves accordingly.

3. Attire Care and Maintenance:

- Employees are responsible for ensuring that their attire is clean and presentable while on duty.
- Damaged or worn clothing (shirts and hats within the first month, jackets within the first 3 to 6 months) should be reported to management to ensure it is replaced promptly.
- If an attire is lost by the employee, it is the responsibility of the employee to cover the cost of that replacement attire.

4. Prohibited Use of Staff Clothing:

- Staff clothing must not be worn for personal activities or events unrelated to Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government operations.
- Staff attire should not be used in situations that could misrepresent the employee's role or mislead others about the official nature of the employee's presence.
- Employees must care for government-issued clothing and avoid actions that may damage or alter the attire's appearance.
- These guidelines ensure that Huu-ay-aht Government staff maintain professionalism and clear identification while performing their duties, reinforcing the integrity and authority vested in their roles.

Employee Stats & Location

- HFN administration has 88 positions on the approved org chart. Of the 88 positions, there are 72 positions filled and 16 vacant.
- Of the 72 employees, 29 are Huu-ay-aht Citizens, 12 from other First Nations, and 31 non-First Nations.
- 29 staff work in the Anacla Government Office, 2 at Paawats Anacla, 30 out of the Port Alberni Government Office, 5 at Port Alberni Paawats and 2 at the 3rd Avenue Infrastructure Office.

Other duties I attended to:

- Iskum/Project Green meetings
- I attended a two-day Indigenous Law workshop
- CMTI meetings
- Maa-Nulth Implementation Committee
- Maa-Nulth Fisheries Committee
- Maa-Nulth Joint Fisheries Committee with Canada
- Maa-Nulth Wildlife Committee

- Lands and Resources GAP Analysis
- HR Workplace and Wellness committee
- Lands and Resources Committee
- Executive Council meetings x2
- Committee of the Whole

Overall, I was productive with all my tasks I took on this month. I am honored to represent our nation as a member of Executive Council. One note I will make is I did take one week off for annual leave last month.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – October 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Finance
Economic Development

Finance

Finance Committee Meeting

- The finance committee met on October 29, 2024
- The Executive Council recommended Deloitte Accounting Firm to be the HFN Auditors for the year 2024-2025. The Citizens will vote on their decision at the People Assembly next month.
- The 2nd Quarter Financial Report was completed. Compared to 2023, we are on positive trend to help the nation make strategic decisions. Extra costs included contract work like third party accounting services, which was necessary to do back track auditing for the last seven years and changes to CRA audit requirements such as Asset retirement requirements.
- The Finance committee had a member resign due to her full-time job commitments. Thank you to Molly for her participation during the last year and we welcomed new member Kathy Dennis.
- Our Chief Financial Officer has left his position to pursue other interests, Thank you Raja for your dedication and work to the nation and good luck in your future endeavors.

Economic Development

Forestry

- Value-Added products like thermal-modified wood for creating higher value Western Hemlock which is in high abundance in the TFL and our private Lands. My team is in discussions with the owner of Cedarland Forest Products to assist as a consultant and sell Timber Tiles products to his clients in Europe. We are also looking to invest with HGB and/or possibly buy equity in a value-added mill for manufacturing side panels.

Salish Elements

- The Green Hydrogen team will have an information Booth at the People's Assembly and will also give an update on the partnership between HFN and Salish Elements. Information to include a production facility, Fueling Stations, Remote Community Power and Fuel Cell development for trucks.

Kiixin Project R&D

- HFN is working with Legacy Tourism to complete a R&D report, which examines potential operational models and improvements for the Kiixin site and moving forward as a self-sustaining business.

Ship-to-Ship Transfers

- We held preliminary discussions with the Port Alberni Port Authority, and a British company interested in exploring an opportunity in ship-to-ship transfers.

Geothermal Energy

- Initiated dialogue with a New Zealand company who wish to introduce this form of energy production to HFN.

Councillor Stephen Rayner – October 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Law and Policy
Green Energy and Climate Sustainability

Law and Policy

- The Law and Policy Committee continues to review and provide recommendations for all legislative changes and newly developed legislation. At October's meeting, we received an update on the Governance Project, assessed its progress, and provided direction for the next steps. The project has completed community rounds and met with the government committees. They have collected feedback, then compiled it and are working to integrate what they heard into the work they are doing on the Community Safety Act. Additionally, we held a joint meeting with the Child and Family Wellness and Mental Health Committee to review and refine policies and procedures for the Oomiiqsu Centers. While recommendations for improvements were provided, the administration was commended for its diligent work in developing this legislation.
- Last fall, the People's Assembly approved an in-depth review of our laws and policies to assess our progress since the signing of our Treaty and ensure our legal framework reflects and upholds our traditional values and practices. This comprehensive review has already identified key areas for enhancement, with a clear plan to actively involve the community in sharing their insights and feedback throughout the process.
- The first phase of this review focuses on the Community Safety Act and related legislation, followed by an evaluation of our financial and economic development laws. Our overarching goal is to systematically strengthen our legal framework to make it more responsive to the needs of our community while staying aligned with our cultural principles and long-term vision.

Emerging Issues:

- A priority moving forward is ensuring that all initiatives progress in a timely manner, adhering to proposed deadlines while maintaining the integrity and inclusivity of the review process. This will require continued collaboration, strategic planning, and active engagement with all stakeholders.

Green Energy and Climate Sustainability

Solar upgrades for Anacra Government Office:

- The Huu-ay-aht First Nations have been approved for a groundbreaking clean energy pilot project, which I had the privilege of developing. This initiative includes the installation of solar panels, battery storage systems, and an electric vehicle charger, alongside significant upgrades to our electrical infrastructure to support these innovative technologies. Importantly, the project also emphasizes community capacity building through training programs and ongoing system maintenance to ensure its sustainability.

- Once implemented, this project will significantly reduce our reliance on electrical grid and diesel generators, promoting energy independence and aligning with our commitment to environmental stewardship. While the project faced some delays, I worked closely with the project lead to overcome these challenges. I am pleased to share that we have successfully rescheduled the installation, which is now set to begin in early spring 2025.
- This initiative is a significant step forward in advancing Huu-ay-aht First Nations' clean energy goals, demonstrating leadership in sustainable development and paving the way for future energy projects. It reflects our broader vision of fostering innovation, resilience, and self-sufficiency for our Nation and future generations.

Community Energy Plan:

- While I was not directly involved in the initial stages of the Community Energy Plan, the project was overseen by the infrastructure department. The first phase, led by Barkley Project Group, has been completed and has successfully identified all feasible options for green energy power generation within HFN territory. The final report serves as a critical guide for developing future green power initiatives and securing funding to bring these projects to fruition.
- HFN has already secured funding from the Low Carbon Economy Challenge Fund (LGCAP), with a portion allocated to advancing the second phase of the Community Energy Plan, which focuses on clean power generation. To address the remaining costs of this phase, applications to New Relationship Trust and the Clean Energy Business Fund will be pursued when their intake periods open in December/January. The second phase aims to assess the full potential of various power generation sources, determining the quantity, location, and associated costs of energy production. This information will be instrumental in evaluating how much power can be supplied to our community and how much can be leveraged for economic development initiatives.
- Additionally, I have engaged with the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation to discuss planning support for clean energy initiatives. These discussions have also included exploring the potential for the Sarita Micro Hydro project in the next call for power, positioning HFN for future clean energy opportunities.

Carbon Footprint and Green House Gas Emissions:

- Although we were not selected in the previous round of funding applications, we are actively preparing for the next intake period. Securing this funding remains a top priority, as it will enable us to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study to identify areas where we can significantly reduce our carbon footprint and outline actionable steps for implementing emission reduction strategies.
- In parallel, Huu-ay-aht First Nation has moved forward with exploring a carbon offset project, reinforcing our commitment to sustainability. This initiative has the potential to generate measurable environmental benefits while creating new opportunities for green funding and partnerships to support our climate goals. Next steps include finalizing the project scope, pursuing additional funding sources, and advancing the planning phases of both the feasibility study and carbon offset project.

Multi Nation Energy Development:

- With continued advancements in clean energy and growing interest among multiple Nations across Vancouver Island in green energy projects, establishing a First Nations Power Authority (FNPA) has become a key strategic focus. Conversations with other First

Nations have highlighted strong support for this initiative, recognizing the value of coming together to collectively advance our clean energy goals. The upcoming call for power presents a timely opportunity for First Nations to leverage these developments, positioning us to take full advantage of available funding and opportunities.

- Through our inter-Nation meetings, we are discussing ways to support each other's energy initiatives, share resources, and collaborate to build a stronger collective future. The formation of an FNPA would enable us to jointly own, manage, and distribute power across Vancouver Island, ensuring long-term sustainability and energy sovereignty. This collaboration not only offers financial rewards but also fosters greater control and benefit-sharing in the clean energy sector, positioning First Nations as leaders in BC's clean energy transition.

Clean Energy BC (CEBC)

- **Board of Directors (BOD):** The Board of Directors for Clean Energy BC provides strategic leadership and governance to support the growth and development of British Columbia's clean energy sector. They work to advance renewable energy projects, promote sustainable policies, and advocate for responsible energy practices. The board represents the interests of its members, fosters collaboration with government, industry, and Indigenous partners, and ensures the organization's initiatives align with its mission to transition to a low-carbon economy. Through oversight and advocacy, the board drives innovation, sustainability, and economic opportunities in the clean energy landscape.
- **CEBC BOD Vice Chair position:** I sit as the vice chair for the Board of Directors for Clean Energy BC. In this role I support the organization's strategic leadership and governance, working closely with the Chair and other board members to advance the clean energy sector in British Columbia. I assist in shaping policies, fostering partnerships, and representing the organization in advocacy and industry events. I function as a key advisor and stepping in for the Chair when necessary. The Vice Chair helps ensure effective decision-making, collaboration, and alignment with Clean Energy BC's mission to promote first nations' rights as well as sustainable and innovative energy solutions.
- **Government Relations Committee (Committee Member):** The Government Relations Committee for Clean Energy BC works to build and maintain strong relationships with government officials and agencies at all levels. The committee advocates for policies and regulations that support the growth of British Columbia's clean energy sector, ensuring alignment with climate goals and sustainability objectives. By engaging in policy discussions, providing industry insights, and fostering collaboration between Indigenous Communities, government agencies and industry the committee plays a key role in influencing decisions that advance renewable energy development and transition to a low-carbon economy. We are collaborating with political parties to foster policies that better facilitate and incentivize clean energy expansion throughout BC.
- **Permitting and Regulatory Committee (Committee Member):** The Permitting Committee for Clean Energy BC focuses on streamlining and improving the permitting processes for clean energy projects in British Columbia. It works to identify and address regulatory challenges, provide industry input on permitting policies, and advocate for efficient and transparent approval frameworks. By collaborating with government agencies, Indigenous communities, and industry stakeholders, the committee helps facilitate the timely development of renewable energy projects while ensuring compliance with environmental and regulatory standards. Recently, we have focused on navigating regulatory requirements essential for the development of clean energy projects in response to BC Hydro's call for power.

Meetings/Events: (a few of the notable events and meetings I attended this month)

Week one:

- Indigenous Law Workshop 2 days in Port Alberni
- Project Green Technical working group meeting
- Government relations Bi-weekly meeting Clean Energy BC

Week two:

- Unfortunately, I tested positive for COVID and was very sick all week, though I did attend these meetings:
 - Pre-election meeting (virtual meeting)
 - Permitting Committee meeting CEBC (virtual meeting)
 - Executive council meeting (virtual meeting)
 - Governance project meeting (virtual meeting)

Week three:

- 3 Land planner interviews
- Iskum Investment meeting
- Meeting with Brad and Edward
- CSpan working group meeting

Week Four:

- Law and Policy Development Committee meeting
- Aboriginal and Indigenous Law Workshop 2 days in Vancouver.
- VI Economic Summit
- 2 Land planner interviews

Week Five:

- Meeting with Stella
- 4VI meeting
- HR workplace and wellness meeting
- Executive council meeting
- Government relations meeting CEBC
- MSSC Working Group meeting.
- New Relationship Trust meeting

Councillor Stella Peters – October 2024

Areas of Responsibility:

Citizen Development
Public Safety
Climate Change and Climate Resilience

Citizen Development

Mental Health and Wellness

- The staff in this department are very busy with the health nurses and mental health and wellness counsellors from NTC, Island Health, FNHA, Quu'asa and also with the Helicopters Without Borders who bring in doctors (physicians and eye doctors) and dentists to remote areas.
- With our own citizens in their day-to-day work, we have to think about the overdose drug crisis and addictions, the intergenerational traumas as it affects our citizens as well as the homeless, especially as we get into the winter weather. We don't just look at people here in Anacra, we also try to help those living away from home.

Education and Training

- Our educational staff are being kept busy with K-12 and our Post Secondary and Trades. It's nice to see our citizens when they celebrate their accomplishments through education, especially young ones.

Culture

- Our cultural wellness team is making drums and regalia, cedar headbands and also cedar roses for events and having dance practices and drumming circles in preparation for the Hoobiye. The Nananiqsu (Elders) are doing fundraising now.
- Culture is healing. Learning your culture gives you your cultural identity and knowing where your roots are is very important to the well being of our people. It makes them proud to be HUU-ay-aht.

Events

- There were no HUU-ay-aht events for the month of October.

Public Safety

Community Safety

- The safety and well-being of our community and citizens is a priority. Following the 30 Recommendations Report, we will continue to do what we feel is necessary to address the needs of our community related to community safety and working with the resources we have or have access to, bringing the community together, creating wholesome activities, having a safe place for all and doing activities to bridge the gap.

Emergency Planning and Preparedness

- With the changes in the weather during the upcoming winter season, we need to plan and be prepared for any type of circumstances we have to face – like the tragic incident in the Sarita River last month where two lives were lost. We certainly did not anticipate something like that happening, but it is a reality.
- Updating the Emergency Plans is a work in progress with Sean Flickinger, our Emergency Coordinator, and we plan on having them complete in the new year so we can look at funding and plan for community engagements around community and public safety.

Climate Change and Climate Resilience

- This is very much related to emergency planning. We need to prepare our community for the changes in our weather patterns and the impacts of climate change.

Other Meetings attended to this month

- EC Meetings
- Indigenous Law Worskhop (2 days)
- Apwinisaht family luncheon with Ha'wiih
- Framework Bi-weekly meeting
- Community Engagement Sessions (2 days – Anacla and Port Alberni)
- NTC/FNHA Traditional Wellness Gathering for Practitioners, Healers and Knowledge Keepers
- Bamfield Road Safety Association
- CDC Meeting
- Kackaamin Celebration for two of our citizens
- Bi-weekly meetings with Stephen Rayner
- HR and Workplace Wellness Committee meeting
- MOTI Meeting
- And meetings that relate to my portfolios and committees

Committees/Boards I am a member of

- HR and Workplace Wellness Committee member Brad Johnson and Stephen Rayner
- Cooperative Management Board Committee with Brad Johnson
- Citizen Development Committee (chair)
- Anacla Planning Committee with Edward Johnson and Brad Johnson
- Community Consultative Group (CCG) with RCMP