

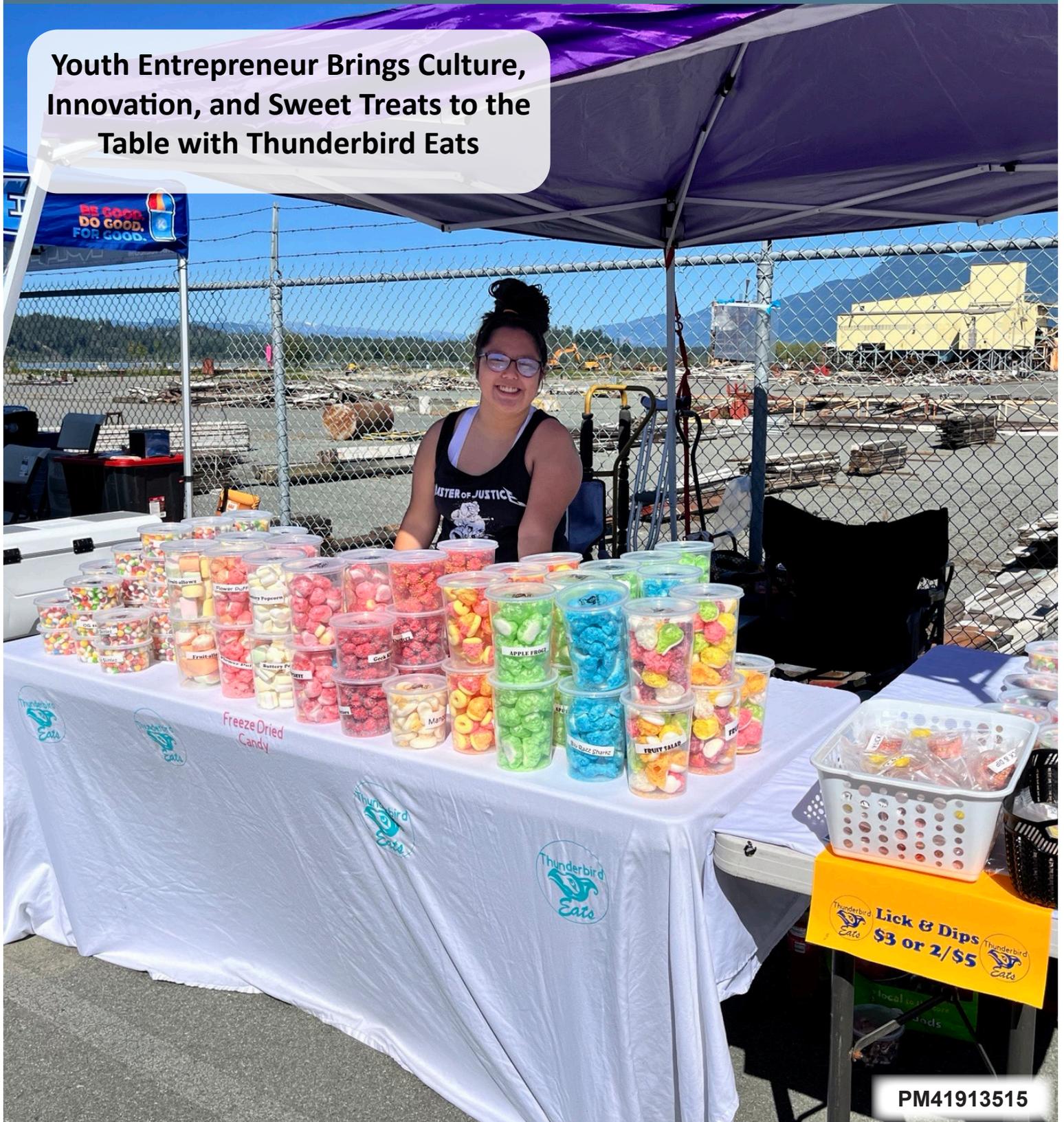


Uyaqhmis

April 2025

Issue 79

Youth Entrepreneur Brings Culture, Innovation, and Sweet Treats to the Table with Thunderbird Eats



PM41913515

Important Dates to Remember

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| Good Friday | Offices Closed, Friday, April 18 |
| Easter Monday | Office Closed, Monday, April 21 |
| Victoria Day | Office Closed, Monday, May 19 |
| National Indigenous People's Day | Office Closed, Friday, June 20 |
| Canada Day | Office Closed, Tuesday, July 1 |
| House of Huu-ay-aht 25th anniversary celebration | Saturday, July 5 |
| BC Day | Office Closed, Monday, August 4 |
| 2025 HFN Days | Friday, August 15 - Saturday, August 16 |
| Labour Day | Office Closed, Monday, September 1 |
| Truth & Reconciliation Day | Office Closed, Tuesday, September 30 |
| Thanksgiving | Office Closed, Monday, October 14 |
| Remembrance Day | Office Closed, Tuesday, November 11 |
| 2025 Annual People's Assembly | Saturday, November 22 Look out for Special Assembly Announcement |
| Winter Break | Office Closed, December 22 - January 2 |

To stay up to date on events please visit our website at www.huuayaht.org/events/



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Huu-ay-aht envisions a strong, self-determining, self-reliant and sustainable Nation. ʔiisaak, Hišuk ma čawak, and ʔuuʔaʔuk guide us as we work together to foster a safe, healthy, and sustainable Nation, where our culture, language, spirituality, and economy flourish.

Huu-ay-aht First Nations Wellness Statement

Our citizens are grounded in our culture, teachings, and sacred principles. Through healing, wellness, celebration, and the understanding of our Treaty, we are connected, empowered, responsible, accountable, and motivated.

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

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Port Alberni, BC
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www.huuayaht.org
for the latest news and events, job postings, and a digital archive of Uyaqhmis

Keep up to date with Uyaqhmis on social media:
@HuuayahtFN



Huu-ay-aht First Nations
Facebook page



Huu-ay-aht Hosts Community Consultation Dinner in Anacla

Thursday, March 13, our Community Consultative Group (CCG) hosted an informative Community Consultation Dinner at the House of Huu-ay-aht in Anacla in collaboration with members of the RCMP. The event brought together about thirty-five Citizens for an evening of learning, conversation, and connection over a delicious dinner.

Constables Kyle Dornan and James Wingfield delivered a detailed presentation on Fraud and Counterfeit Money, focusing on how scams and frauds can affect our community. Their presentation covered a wide range of topics, including:

- Phone phishing
- SMS text phishing
- Email phishing
- Social media scams
- Mail fraud
- In-person scams
- The importance of strong passwords
- How hackers operate and how to protect yourself

The session provided practical advice on staying alert and safeguarding personal information in both online and offline interactions. Community members asked thoughtful questions and shared



Presentation at the House of Huu-ay-aht on Thursday, March 13 (Photo provided by Stella Peters).

some of their own experiences, helping to create an engaging discussion.

Following this, Constable Lindsay Hisch led an important and compassionate presentation on Intimate Partner Violence. She spoke about the many forms this violence can take, including:

- Family violence
- Intimate partner violence
- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Verbal abuse
- Sexual abuse

Constable Hisch emphasized the importance of recognizing the signs of abuse, supporting those

affected, and making the resources available to those in need. Her presentation was met with heartfelt appreciation from attendees and opened the door for meaningful conversations

Concluding the presentations, everyone enjoyed a shared dinner, offering an opportunity to connect more informally and continue conversations sparked by the evening's topics.

Huu-ay-aht would like thank everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a success. Huu-ay-aht looks forward to hosting more sessions that support community safety, education, and wellness.

Wellness Event for Huu-ay-aht Citizens in Port Alberni

Citizens gathered at the Best Western Plus Barclay Hotel on Saturday, March 15 for a full-day event focused on wellness, cultural connection, and self-care.

Running from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the event welcomed more than 50 attendees who explored a variety of services and activities designed to support personal well-being.

Guests were invited to participate in a wide range of offerings, including massage therapy, reflexology,

reiki, and energy healing. Additional services featured psychic readings, traditional brushings, and beauty treatments such as henna eyebrow and eyelash applications and hairdressing.

Guests also had the opportunity for traditional brushings and to visit the cedar table, where cultural practices were shared in a respectful and supportive setting.

The event created an inclusive environment focused on balance, healing, and personal well-being. At-

tendees were encouraged to engage with the services at their own pace, fostering a calm and positive atmosphere.

Laughter filled the room as everyone connected with one another, sat in circle to listen to guest speakers, shared a meal together and took photos at the photo booth.

Huu-ay-aht First Nations would like to thank all the Citizens who were able to come and participate in this event.

Lands and Natural Resources Harvest ʔuʔup to Protect Kelp

In late November, the Lands and Natural Resources Marine Monitoring and Stewardship team partnered with the Kelp Rescue Initiative to harvest ʔuʔup (large sea urchins) in an effort to support kelp growth within the ʔaʔuuʔi.

ʔuʔup and ʔiix (small urchin) are aggressive grazers of kelp and are believed to contribute to the decline of kelp populations in the region.

In severe cases, ʔuʔup and ʔiix can graze the entire sea floor, removing all algae and vegetation, which results in what is known as an "urchin barren."

On the west coast of North America, some kelp populations have declined by as much as 95%.

Kelp species such as bull kelp and giant kelp provide essential complex habitats that extend far into the water column supporting a variety of fisheries species, including herring, juvenile salmon, lingcod, greenling, and



Photo Credit: Fernando Lessa, Kelp Rescue Initiative

Healthy giant kelp ecosystems creating homes for fish and several other organisms. Notice some sea urchins are present, but they don't cover the sea floor (Photo provided by Lands and Natural Resources Team).

rockfish.

The loss of kelp forests negatively impacts these species, and others that rely on the kelp ecosystem, highlighting the Nuu-chah-nulth sacred principle of ʔiʔuk ma ʔawak (Everything is one and interconnected).

The Kelp Rescue Initiative, based at the Bamfield Marine Science Centre and in partnership with other academic insti-

tutions, is dedicated to understanding the decline of kelp and finding solutions for its protection and restoration.

Together, using trained scuba divers and topside support, we harvested approximately 1,200 ʔuʔup from experimental kelp outplanting sites.

The harvested ʔuʔup were shared with several Maa-nulth Treaty Nations, reaching as far north as Ka:yu:'k't'h' / Che:k'tles7et'h' (Kyuquot/Chek-lesahht).

The kelp out planting sites will be monitored through the Spring to assess the impact of ʔuʔup removal and other factors on kelp health and growth.

These sites will be resurveyed to determine whether more ʔuʔup have moved towards the newly planted kelps.

In March, we plan to remove additional ʔuʔup to further protect the outplanted kelp, emphasizing our role as stewards of the environment and demonstrating ʔuuʔaʔuk (Taking care of – in this case, our oceans).



A degraded kelp ecosystem, transitioning to a state closer to an urchin barren. Notice how obvious the fish are in this image. This highlights the role kelp plays as habitat, shielding fish and protecting fish and other important organisms from predation (Photo provided by Lands and Natural Resources Team).

Early Herring Spawn Reported in Toquaht ḥahuuḥi

On Monday, February 10, 2025, the Huu-ay-aht Lands and Natural Resource Department received reports that the herring spawn had begun early in Toquaht ḥahuuḥi.

This marks an essential seasonal event along the west coast, where Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*) returns from the open ocean to sheltered estuaries to spawn.

Herring plays a crucial role in the marine ecosystem, serving as a key food source for larger marine species and an essential resource for coastal communities.

During spawning, male and female herring release their milt and eggs into the water, allowing fertilization to occur naturally.

This mass reproductive event turns the water into a distinctive milky white, signalling the beginning of the spawn. To begin developing, fertilized eggs, known as roe, attach to surrounding habitats such as eelgrass, kelp, and rocky shorelines.

The Lands and Natural Resources team is now preparing for the next spawn by gathering cedar to place for traditional

roe harvest. Given the early start of the spawn, the team is actively monitoring the territory and all of Barkley Sound for further signs of spawning activity.

Keeping a close watch on these annual cycles helps inform conservation efforts and ensures the long-term health of the herring population.

Community members and local harvesters are encouraged to report any observations of spawning activity to the Lands and Natural Resource Department to support ongoing monitoring efforts.



Image of herring spawn in Barkley Sound- drone survey off Macoah Passage by the Toquaht Marine Stewardship Program (Image Provided by Abigail Andiel).

ḥawiiḥ Council Gifts Artwork to the ʔumʔiiqsu Centre

In a heartfelt gesture, the ḥawiiḥ Council presented two beautiful paintings to the ʔumʔiiqsu Centre. This unique and culturally focused program opened its doors in January 2025 to keep families together by protecting mothers and children from gender-based and intimate partner violence.

It aims to prevent Huu-ay-aht and other Nuu-chah-nulth children and youth from entering foster care, reunite mothers and children who have been separated, and ultimately strengthen families.

Hesquiaht artist Geena Haiyu-pis created these gifted artworks to

symbolize love and support, capturing the sacred bond between mother and child. The paintings are vibrant and full of spirit and reflect a deep respect for the families who call the Centre home.

With this gift, the ḥawiiḥ Council offers more than just artwork; they provide comfort, connection, and cultural pride. These paintings are meant to show the families at the ʔumʔiiqsu Center that ḥawiiḥ Council supports them and that we hope these paintings bring peace, encouragement and a sense of belonging.

Now proudly displayed in the Centre's common area, the paintings

provide a visual embrace and daily reminder of community care and the ties that unite the Nuu-chah-nulth people through art, tradition, and heartfelt connection.



ḥawiiḥ Yaalthuuaa-uks, Sherri Cook and Shannon Zimmerman, Director of ʔumʔiiqsu holding gifted artwork from ḥawiiḥ council (Photo by HFN Communications).

Huu-ay-aht Youth Spends Time in Eastern Canada at Seminars

Written by Jenelle Johnson-Sabbas

Gordon Foundation Treaty Simulation

I had the privilege of attending the Gordon Foundation Treaty Simulation. During the simulation, we had to separate into teams representing one of three parties for our simulation task: the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, and the Inuit Provincial Government.

We were negotiating an IIBA (Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement) regarding a new National wildlife area. Each team received a mandate letter expressing their parties' interests and ideas regarding the IIBA. Each team had advisors in our team rooms while we prepared our proposals. At the negotiation meeting, we presented our proposals and negotiated our parties' interests and ideas regarding the IIBA.

Overall, this treaty simulation resulted in a final agreement for our group to withdraw our proposal for the National wildlife area. Throughout the simulation, the other youth and I had a fantastic experience. We listened to and learned from our advisors and made connections and relationships for possible future career paths.

While in Ottawa, I saw the Parliament Building and many other beautiful architectural buildings and tried various foods.

Land Claims Agreement Coalition

Following the Gordon Foundation Treaty Simulation, I attended the Land Claims Agreement Coalition (LCAC) in Gatineau, Quebec.

During the duration of this event,



Jenelle, third from the left, participating at the Gordon Foundation Treaty Simulation (Photo provided by Kae-Lynn Johnson).

I learned from twenty-six other nations that have modern treaties and are also self-governing. I listened to the speakers from these nations discuss the importance for the people of their nations to rebuild their communities and nations on their terms.

The first seminar during this conference I sat in for was about Economic Development, and the speaker was from the Kwanlin Dun First Nation.

They signed their final self-governance agreements in 2005, which was a pivotal movement for their people.

The Kwanlin Dun First Nation created a cultural centre in downtown Whitehorse, contributing revenue and employment opportunities for their First Nations. It also has a wind project with a twenty-five-year electricity purchase agreement with Yukon Energy.

I also learned the timeline for the Maa-Nulth Treaty from 1994 to 2020, which includes five Nuu-chah-nulth nations that voted in favour of the Treaty in 2007: Huu-ay-aht, Ka:'yu:k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h',

Toquiah, Uchucklesaht, and Yuuṭuʔiʔath.

The second seminar I also found interesting was about Modern Treaties in the era of AI and Data Governance.

Good governance is supported by good information. I listened to a speaker on behalf of the Ka:'yu:k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nation (KCFN) explain the KCFN Data Project, which is in action and includes a data governance readiness assessment, a high-level framework, and increased data sophistication, which is needed to see intersections.

I am so thankful I was able to participate in these events as I have never travelled outside of British Columbia. It was amazing to meet so many people from across Canada and witness the differences between nations from the past stories of our peoples and the different languages that make each nation special in their ways—taking all the knowledge from the other advisors and speakers who come from different fields of knowledge from modern treaties around Canada.

Thunderbird Eats Receives their Business License

At just 14 years old, Saryta Dick is already making waves in the world of business with her venture Thunderbird Eats, a freeze-dried food and candy business rooted in culture, innovation, and community values. But Saryta's journey began even earlier; she was only 12 when she first launched her business with the support of her family and community.

Saryta, whose roots span Huu-ay-aht, Tseshaht, and Tsimshian Nations, says her motivation wasn't about turning a profit.

"We didn't do it for money; we did it so we could learn how to freeze dry traditional foods," said Saryta. "Not everyone has the freezer space for fish, deer, elk, and other foods. Freeze-dried foods with oxygen absorbers and proper containers can be shelf-stable for up to 25 years, which encourages food sovereignty."

While candy became the first offering, initially to pay off the freeze-drying machine and have some fun, it quickly grew into something more meaningful.

"We also wanted to make candy that wouldn't damage dental work, like my mom's crown popping off or the wire from my braces getting tugged," said Saryta.

Her business name, Thunderbird Eats, pays tribute to her family history and culture. It symbolizes strength, tradition, and transfor-



Saryta Dick holding Thunderbird Eats business license and merchandise (Photo by HFN Communications).

mation, which are reflected in her products and approach to entrepreneurship.

Saryta now holds an official business license, representing more than just paperwork.

"It means a lot to me because it means I have freedom with my business to sell anywhere I so please without restrictions from the city," said Saryta.

Her journey hasn't been without challenges. From equipment failures and wasted products to battling the elements at outdoor markets, Saryta has faced it all with determination.

"We failed in the beginning when we were figuring out the machine, and we've had tents fall apart at markets because of wind," said

Saryta

With the mentorship and support of her mom and wider family, she's persevered.

A proud member of her community, Saryta sees her business as a way to inspire others, especially young people.

"I see it as being a positive leader for other youth and showing them that being such a young, yet successful person is possible," said Saryta.

As she enters her second year of business, Saryta has big dreams, including expanding her operation with a second freeze-drying machine and eventually incorporating traditional Indigenous foods into her offerings.

When asked what advice she would give others thinking of starting a business, she offers wisdom beyond her years: "Have fun with it, do your research, and if you do what you love, it won't feel like work."

With passion, cultural pride, and entrepreneurial spirit, Saryta Dick is proving that age is no barrier when it comes to making a difference, one freeze-dried treat at a time.



Thunderbird Eats various merchandise options of the freeze dried candy (Photo provided by Saryta Dick).



huu ay aht
ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Huu-ay-aht First Nations

New Staff Members Join Huu-ay-aht First Nations



Lisa Morgan

Lisa Morgan brings over 36 years of experience in Early Childhood Education to her role as an Early Childcare Worker. She is dedicated to supporting children's social, emotional, and physical development through nurturing care, shared mealtimes, outdoor play, and nature walks. Lisa delights in helping children explore the natural world around them, fostering curiosity and connection with their environment.

Lisa was among the first students to graduate from the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) program at North Island College in Port Alberni in 1988. She later returned to complete her Infant and Toddler education. Over the years, she has worked in multiple childcare settings, including 18 years at the Hummingbird Childcare Center in Port Alberni.

Lisa is passionate about building meaningful relationships with children and families, creating a safe and supportive atmosphere where each child feels seen and valued. She is excited to continue caring for children and supporting her fellow staff members with warmth and dedication. Lisa enjoys nature walks, paddle boarding, and spending time in the water outside of work, often accompanied by her beloved dog. In her free time, she also enjoys cooking, reading, and practicing yoga.



Brian McClure

Brian McClure is proud to serve as the new Project Manager for the Huu-ay-aht First Nations (HFN) Infrastructure and Capital Projects Department. With extensive experience in structural design, project management, and building code compliance, he is excited to contribute his expertise to supporting HFN's infrastructure development and community growth.

Brian's background as a Senior Structural Designer and Level 3 Building Official has given him a comprehensive understanding of the technical and administrative aspects of infrastructure projects. He is passionate about fostering collaboration among stakeholders, streamlining processes, and ensuring that projects are carried out with integrity and sustainability at their core.

Brian enjoys exploring the West Coast with his wife, daughter, and son-in-law outside of his professional work. He is an avid baker and camper—and looks forward to sharing some of his baking with the community. Brian considers it an honour to work alongside the Huu-ay-aht community, leadership, and project teams to support the Nation's vision and long-term goals.



Irene Cordero

Irene Cordero is a Clinical Counsellor committed to supporting individuals on their healing journeys. Originally from Costa Rica, she has a diverse Indigenous Central American, Spanish, and Portuguese heritage and has called Port Alberni home for nine years.

With over two decades of experience, Irene holds degrees in Psychology, Clinical Group Psychology, and a Master of Counselling from the City University of Seattle in Canada. She specializes in grief and loss, trauma, substance use, family dynamics, relationships, disability, and mental health. Trained in individual, couples, and group counselling, she is an ally for BIPOC, Latinx, LGBTQ+2 and individuals with disabilities, fostering a welcoming, safe and confidential space to share.

Irene enjoys hiking with her dogs, cooking, and meditating outside work. She looks forward to supporting the Huu-ay-aht First Nations community.

LANGUAGE CORNER

Thanking

Syllables

When you tackle a long word break it down into smaller parts until you feel confident to say it faster.

One way to do that is by looking at the vowels. In Nuu-chah-nulth we have both long and short vowels.

a aa e ee i ii

o oo u uu

These letters help you find the rhythm of our language.

Try to lean into the long vowels and keep the short ones short.

ʔuuš'akšileʔic

You've done something useful

Rule

Look for the vowel, count back one consonant

ʔuuš'akšileʔic

ʔuuš 'ak ši le ʔic

Letters

š sounds like "sh"

ʔ sounds like "tl"

ʔ a catch, as in uh-oh

Try on you own

ʔaaphiisitameʔic

You've done something kind

Look for the answer in the next issue!

10 Huu-ay-aht Citizens Successfully Become Captains

The Huu-ay-aht First Nations recently hosted a Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP), Basic Safety, and Maritime Radio course from Thursday, March 20, to Tuesday, March 25, at the Anacla Government Office.

The course included 10 participants, comprising Huu-ay-aht Guardians, women, and youth, who committed long hours in the classroom, even working through the weekend.

All participants who started the course completed it successfully and are now qualified captains.

Huu-ay-aht First Nations would like to congratulate each of them on this significant achievement.

Additionally, Huu-ay-aht First Nations expresses its gratitude to Captain Matthew from Datum Marine Services for his time and for travelling to our community to provide the course.



Course participants engaged in a classroom learning activity (Photo provided by Sean Flickinger).

Honouring Wellness and Culture at the ʔumʔiiqsu Centre

On March 6, 2025, the Maa-nulth Treaty Society Health and Wellness Working Group gathered at the ʔumʔiiqsu Centre for an insightful presentation about the centre's services, followed by a brief tour of the facility.

This meeting underscored the ongoing commitment to supporting mothers and children from the Nuu-chah-nulth Nations, emphasizing the importance of cultural and community-based care.

During this gathering, čaamata yakawaʔah, Hereditary Chief Kevin Mack from Toquaht, made a heartfelt gift to the ʔumʔiiqsu Centre, an exquisite piece of artwork titled *Quiet Reflections*.

This piece pays tribute to the essential work that Huu-ay-aht is doing through the centre. Now proudly displayed in the staff room, *Quiet Reflections* is a gentle reminder for staff to pause, reflect, and renew their spirits amid their compassionate work.

The ʔumʔiiqsu Centre was also honoured to receive a generous donation from Marge White, who contributed over 14 pieces of artwork

for the Child and Family Wellness (CFW) office and various programs at the centre.

These meaningful contributions will enhance the environments where healing and support occur. Once all the pieces have been framed and installed, the centre will release an updated article showcasing this incredible collection.

As the ʔumʔiiqsu Centre continues to foster a welcoming and culturally enriched environment, the team

seeks additional Indigenous artwork to adorn its hallways, common living areas, bedrooms, counselling spaces, and cultural spaces.

Artwork and cultural pieces are deeply appreciated and will help create an atmosphere of comfort, strength, and connection for those seeking support at the centre.

For more information on donating artwork, please contact Tiana Peters, ʔumʔiiqsu Centre Coordinator, at 250-736-5066.



Toquaht ɥawit čaamata yakawaʔah Kevin Mack and Shannon Zimmerman, Director of ʔumʔiiqsu holding gifted artwork. (Photo provided by Shannon Zimmerman).

Huu-ay-aht Youth Embrace Leadership and Culture at Gathering Our Voices

Huu-ay-aht youth embarked on a journey to Kamloops to participate in the annual Gathering Our Voices (GOV) Indigenous Youth Leadership Training.

The group gathered at the Huu-ay-aht Government Office in Port Alberni at 5:45 a.m. for a scheduled departure at 6 a.m. Their trip included a stop in Nanaimo to pick up an additional youth participant before continuing to Nanaimo Airport.

Upon arriving at Vancouver International Airport, the group explored the terminal before boarding their final flight to Kamloops.

After settling in at The Ramada Hotel, they explored the amenities and shared a meal before the event officially began.

The first day in Kamloops was dedicated to registration and an introduction to Thompson Rivers University, the primary venue for the conference's main events.

The opening ceremonies took place at the university's gymnasium, where the local First Nation, Tkemlúps te Secwépemc, welcomed participants to the unceded ancestral lands of the Secwépemc Nation.

Traditional protocols and prayers were observed, followed by greetings from event organizers, including Auntie Maddy, President of the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC), and representatives from the Provincial Indigenous Youth Council (PIYC), a leadership group of youth aged 14 to 24 who significantly contribute to plan-



Huu-ay-aht First Nation youth at Gathering Our Voices in Kamloops (Photo provided by Kae-Lynn Johnson).

ning GOV each year.

Workshops commenced the following day, allowing youth to engage in cultural and educational activities. The Huu-ay-aht group attended workshops at Valleyview Secondary School, participating in sessions on cedar weaving, beading, marine science, bingo games, and hockey.

In the evening, the GOV talent show took place at Sagebrush Theatre, featuring performances from Indigenous youth. Huu-ay-aht's own Olivia Peters delivered a heartfelt rendition of "What Was I Made For?" by Billie Eilish while her peers cheered her on.

On Thursday, March 20, workshops continued at Valleyview Secondary School and Thompson Rivers University. After completing the scheduled sessions, youth delegates could unwind at a dance party or a movie night.

The Huu-ay-aht group celebrated with a pizza night before joining the dance party, which many described as a highlight of their experience at GOV.

The event concluded on Friday, March 21, with closing ceremonies at the Thompson Rivers University gymnasium. Participants were sent off with performances by the local Sage Hill drumming group and jingle dress dancers, along with final words of encouragement from Auntie Maddy.

The ceremonies emphasized the importance of youth voices in shaping the future and the power of collective engagement in Indigenous communities.

The Gathering Our Voices event was a valuable and enriching experience for the Huu-ay-aht youth. The Huu-ay-aht First Nations encourage continued participation in future GOV gatherings, recognizing the impact such events have in fostering leadership, cultural connection, and personal growth among Indigenous youth.

Huu-ay-aht Held its 2025 Spring Legislature

Huu-ay-aht First Nations held its 2025 Spring Legislature at the Anacla Government Office on March 18 (first sitting) and March 27 (second and third sitting). The sessions were held with the Speaker in attendance and the Executive Council sitting as Legislative members.

At this year's sessions, Huu-ay-aht introduced the 2025 Budget Act in the first, accepted it in the second, and enacted it in the third. At the second session, the Economic Development Plan (EDP) was reviewed and approved.

The Budget Act passes through the Legislature each year. The act authorizes spending authority for the year aligning with the priorities set out in the Huu-ay-aht Strategic Plan.

A few important things to note about the 2025 Budget Act are that further amendments were made

after its introduction at the first sitting.

Amendments to highlights are:

- Huumis Venture LP – \$ 1.8 mill allocated to make the loans payments
- Operational changes for capital projects - \$4.9 revised to \$12.2 million which captures previously approved projects that received funding but have not started. The projects will start this year. As well as all department operational budget of \$4.3 revised to \$4.2 million.
- Amendments to the 2024 Budget Act were also included

Amendments were accepted and enacted. Please find the 2025 Budget Act at <https://huyuayht.org/government/legislation/>.

Following the Legislature, the Executive Council held an Execu-

tive Council meeting where they review and approve the Financial Plan, which breaks down revenue and expenditures. The budget will be monitored monthly to ensure that it is being spent in accordance with the Financial Plan.

As another item on the agenda, The Economic Development Officer presented a summary of the four-year Economic Development Plan. Prior to the Legislature, the Economic Development Committee, Lands and Natural Resources Committee, Finance Committee, ḥawiiḥ Council and Executive Council had the opportunity to review and provide feedback and those changes to the plan were incorporated.

Members of the Legislature accepted and approved the Economic Development Plan.

The Economic Development Plan 2025 - 2029 can be viewed at: <https://huyuayht.org/services/economic-development/>



Photo of Huu-ay-aht First Nations Anacla Government Office patio that overlooks Pachena Bay Beach (Photo by HFN Communications).