



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Advisory Circle & Project Team

For Huu-ay-aht Tribunal Project



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Jack Cook grew up in Port Alberni. He has resided in Bamfield, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Victoria and Vancouver. His experience spans an extensive career in employment outreach and Human Resources Programs Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. He has worked as a program coordinator at the Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council/NETB for ten years, setting up, delivering and reviewing the Employment and Training Programs for Indigenous communities and organizations as a result of the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement (AHRDA) between the Service Canada and North Island/Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council Aboriginal Management Society (NI/NTCAMS).





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Angela Wesley (Shii-shii-k^walahp) is a Huu-ay-aht citizen and a member of the House of Ahp-wini-saht. She is proudly guided by the mentorship and teachings of her mother in particular - Huu-ay-aht elder Marjorie White (Nana-himyis), along with some of the most brilliant First Nations leaders in Huu-ay-aht, Nuuchahnulth and throughout British Columbia.

Angela has dedicated her personal and professional life to answering the call of our ancestors to continue to work towards our vision of governing ourselves once again based on who we are and where we come from.



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My name is **ḥapinyuuk, Tommy Happynook Jr.** My great grandparents are Lizzie and Billy Happynook, my grandfather is Tommy Happynook, my parents are Tom and Kathy Happynook. I am married to Carly Cunningham, and we have son named Mahihkan.

I have a PhD in Anthropology and work as an assistant professor in the department of Anthropology at the University of Victoria.

My interests include documenting the reclamation of knowledge, teachings, culture, language, responsibilities, and identity through my relationship to čaačaačiiḥas.



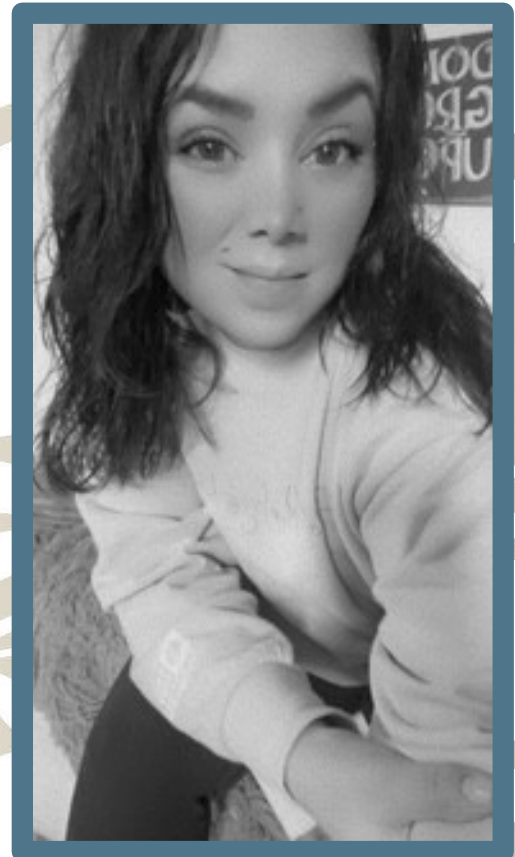
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Andrea Pettigrew, čaxčaaʔaʔaqsup, belongs to the Johnson family, her father was late Philip Johnson and her mom is Leslie Stelmacker (nee Pettigrew). Her grandparents were the late Kenny Johnson and Joan Johnson (nee Mack).

Andrea was raised in Franklin River Logging camp, as well as Bamfield and Port Alberni. She maintains strong connections with her family on all sides.

She has 4 daughters, Mikaela, Tyler, Dannika and Raina are her pride and joy.





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Stephen Rayner, traditional name ḡaasquḡisḡath was elected in the 2023 Election and holds the portfolio for Law and Policy Development, Green Energy, and Climate Sustainability.

Stephen Rayner comes from the family of Aah-paat, Maggie Mack and Na'kapandzilas, Harry Mountain, ḡawiiḡ, who had a daughter, Tuutaylim, Louisa Watts (nee Mack). Tuutaylim and Washimal'a Hishtsukwat, Thomas Watts Sr. had Tuutaaḡ ap, Thomas Watts Jr. Tuutaaḡ ap and Chief Lian Dolly McRae (nee Morgan) had Tuk-quuileh-sup, Cynthia Rayner (nee Watts), mother to Stephen Rayner. Stephen also carries close ties to the Sport, Johnson, and Nookemus families.



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Project Team: Project Director

Karen Haugen is the Executive Director for Huu-ay-aht First Nations. She took on this role in May 2023 and has been supporting a team to accomplish the goal of unleashing Huu-ay-aht territory to bring economic wealth to the Nation and to support Huu-ay-aht Citizens.

With her team, HFN has been successful in completing the Bamfield Road chip seal project. The ʔumʔiiqsu Centre was another major capital initiative, a centre for Indigenous women fleeing abusive situations to come and regain their wellness while staying with their children.





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Project Team: Project Lead

My name is **Heather Castleden** (she/her), which is the name given to a flowering evergreen plant that thrives on the pretty barren lands of Scotland and England where my ancestors are from. My father is Don Castleden and late Jaye Castleden (nee Jarrett). I was born in the territory of the Yellowknives Dene. I now live in Coast Salish territories. I am married to Jay, a third generation Ukrainian and we have two adult children, Dylan and Jordan.

In 2005, Huu-ay-aht First Nations welcomed me into community as a graduate student; we collaboratively documented the sacred relationships between cedar, salmon, and the people. Our research relationship has continued for 20 years around Treaty implementation!

I am now a Full Professor at the University of Victoria. It is an honour and privilege to be asked to be the Project Lead for the Tribunal Project.





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Project Team: Project Coordinator



My name is **Jeremy Perkins** (he/him). I am of settler ancestry working to decolonize myself and it has been my goal to be able to work in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and am grateful to be working for Huu ay aht on this project.

I was raised in the territory of the Cowichan Tribes and have lived on what is now known as Vancouver Island my whole life. I graduated from Vancouver Island University in 2023 with a Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies and Politics and am currently pursuing a Masters in Public Administration at the University of Victoria. For my masters thesis, I also have the privilege of working with Huu ay aht on research regarding the upcoming treaty review.

I have experience working for the Office of the BC Ombudsperson on matters of administrative fairness in the BC public service. I have also worked for Environment and Climate Change Canada, and a Climate non-profit in Sydney, Australia.



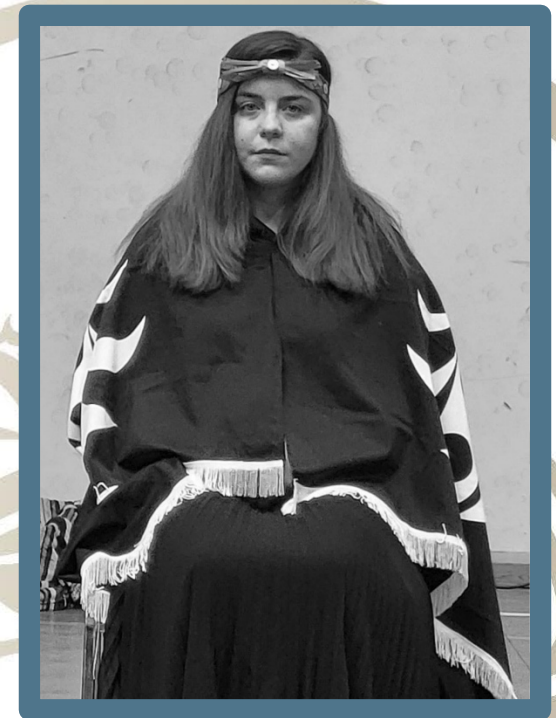
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Project Team: Summer 2025 Intern

My name is **Kiana Mio** and I come from the Joe family, the daughter of Clint and Natane Mio. I am the oldest of two siblings, my $\dot{y}uk^{w}iiqsu$ is Timothy. I hold a responsibility within this project as a member of the Advisory Circle and the Project Team.

Our late grandfather, Isaac Joe, was the son of Peter and Odelia Joe. Peter Joe was the son of Kenneth and Susie “Opetchesaht” Alexander.

On our paternal grandfather's side, our relatives immigrated from Italy.





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Thank you, ʔeko

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