



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

**Executive Council Report
July 2025**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHIEF COUNCILLOR JOHN JACK MAY REPORT..... PAGE 3-5

HA'WII REPRESENTATIVE THERESA NOOKEMUS REPORT PAGE 6-13

COUNCILLOR EDWARD JOHNSON REPORT PAGE 14-19

COUNCILLOR BRAD JOHNSON REPORT PAGE 20-22

COUNCILLOR EVAN COOK REPORT PAGE 23-24

COUNCILLOR STEPHEN RAYNER REPORT PAGE 25-32

Chief-Councillor John Alan Jack Report – July 2025

General Duties – Chief Councillor – Progress Report

First and Second Week

The first and second weeks of July were the first leg of my Annual Leave, there are another few interspersed in July and into August. I'm taking the last week of August off because daycares and day camps are closed for that week with schools starting up once more.

Third Week

Monday the 14th was the beginning of a two-day work interruption in my Annual Leave. It occurred due to Huu-ay-aht co-chairing the annual Maa-nulth Government-to-Government Forum with the Provincial Government. The two days went very well, and they were in Victoria to aid in the BC Government being close to the Legislature (as we weren't sure whether the situation with confidence votes was going to be secure or not when we first set out the dates). The Monday was an evening dinner in the Rotunda and Hall of Honour of the Legislature itself, a first for Maa-nulth and potentially modern treaties. The second day was a full day at the Ocean Pointe Hotel in Victoria/Esquimalt, where I co-chaired the meeting with MIRR Minister Christine Boyle. We went through agendas that celebrated our success, identified where we need to work together better, and re-affirmed the on-going treaty relationship we have with the Provincial Crown and Provincial Government. We expect that this will have a good impact on relationships widely with both administrative personnel and with the Ministers and MLAs forming the Provincial Government itself. The success of this event precipitated the attendance of a rising star MLA from the Mainland to our House of Huu-ay-aht 25 Year Celebration as well. I took the following two days off as a part of my Annual Leave, which was my original plan for the week before necessity made things change. And Friday was taken up with both an important second Strategic Discussion on Forestry, and the signing of the long-awaited MOU with BC Corrections, which was a great thing to happen – I want to thank Councillor Stella Peters on the work she did alongside staff on making sure this MOU was strong and fit with our overall reconciliation strategy with various Provincial entities.

Fourth Week

Monday the 21st was my birthday, so I took the day off as a part of shifting around my Annual Leave. The next day was Tuesday the 22nd, where I attended a preparatory meeting for a large group of local governments, First Nations and forestry-related businesses out of the Alberni Valley and beyond to organize our conversation with the Provincial Government. On Wednesday, I attended and chaired two meetings of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District: a Committee of the Whole in the morning, and a Board Meeting in the afternoon. On Thursday the 24th, I attended the first half of the aforementioned meeting between Alberni Valley forestry interests with the Deputy Minister of Forests, Makenzie Leine, and her team. Afterwards, I chaired an Executive Council Meeting. On the Friday, I attended the Huu-ay-aht Graduation Celebration at the House of Huu-ay-aht; and then on the Saturday, I returned with my family to attend and speak a bit at the 25th Anniversary of the House of Huu-ay-aht. I am greatly appreciative for the mountain of work that went into both events, especially with the canoes from the Tribal Journeys coming in at that time as well. Many thanks to staff, especially Karen and Brent, but also to our own Deputy Chief-Councillor Edward Johnon and Councillor Stella Peters for putting together and hosting two great events. I will endeavour to improve my cardio and ankle strength for next year as I took a bit of a spill dancing for my daughter's music player, but I make no promises for the quality of my dancing – only my enthusiasm.

Fifth Week

I attended to an Advocacy Meeting of the federal Land Claims Agreements Coalition on the 28th, then worked on catching up on my emails and phone calls until meeting with Deputy Chief-Councillor Johnson for a touch-base to get ready for the next month. The next day, I attended an information session with Forum on potential

modelling for the next steps in the Framework Plan and property development with our CFO and the CFO of the HUU-AY-AHT Group of Businesses. On the Wednesday, I had set aside the day to attend an in-person meeting with the new MIRR Minister, Hon. Spencer Chandra Herbert. On my drive to Nanaimo, however, I dumped coffee all over my shirt and pants. I quickly drove home and changed the meeting to online, but this is perhaps a sign that I should start switching to quick espresso before I leave rather than a giant mug in the car. The good news coming out of it though was that I was able to attend the kickoff meeting of the Land Use Plan updates undertaken by our administration and contractors, which went quite well and I look forward to the engagement process they'll be undertaking. We then had a Council meeting on Thursday the 31st.

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

The last weeks of July were eventful. There was an earthquake in a place called Kamchatka in far eastern Russia, which led to a tsunami advisory for the west coast of North America. An Emergency Operations Centre was opened for both the ACRD and for HUU-AY-AHT First Nations to monitor the situation. I was kept in the loop for both and ended up taking a fair chunk of time that week to take media requests and make sure proper information was put out there. Not one day after the media furor died down, the fire at Wesley Ridge started on the far side of Cameron Lake and ended up impacting hundreds of homes on the RDN side of the island. As Chair of the Regional District, I've been kept in the loop of these situations. Both of which underline the importance of professional administrative staff to do the vital work of the EOC as well as those able to help political leaders get the right information out to the public in an age where misinformation and even disinformation can clog up the understanding of the general public. Many thanks to all involved at both the ACRD, and to our HFN emergency management staff, especially Sean Flickinger, who kept me in the loop on what was going on within our community. Well done!

This also raises the consideration and importance of both an emergency route and an alternative route to and from the Alberni Valley. It's becoming more clear that the Alberni to HUU-AY-AHT to DITIDAHT to Cowichan route is the route we should be considering for further development.

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 [Work on Major Projects have expanded such that I have asked Councillor Rayner to help oversee the specific activities of the Special Investment Bodies, expanding the involvement of more members of Council on larger and politically sensitive activities. There has been further development on how we will go about integrating our holdings in Huumiis Ventures LP and Forestry Consulting Services LP, but there are complications that require legal counsel to report back to us. We await some options for decision in the next few months.

External Relations – Progress Report

We continue to work with Earncliffe as our GR firm, and we continue to develop our working relationship with the Provincial Government and plan out an approach to create a productive relationship the federal government. While the same political party retains government, the Carney-led Liberals will be markedly different than the one led by Trudeau. As a result, we have looked serious into the opportunities afforded by

the tariff/Trump related measures that the Carney government will look to make a reality. Our plan will be to engage meaningfully as a modern treaty nation and as a part of a coalition of modern treaty nations on this matter. The HUU-AY-AHT policy will be one of cautious optimism related to the prospective actions that this government will take, where success will be predicated on how this will all be implemented and whether and how there will be opportunities for FNs and FN-based initiatives may move forward under such laws or regulations.

External Relations – Emerging Issues

The sudden change to the MIRR Minister was a bit of a shock. We need to continue working to ensure that we have positive relationships with as many Ministers and MLAs as possible to further our interests, especially our economic ones. As ever, being involved in the conversations around the interpretation of Bill 15 Provincially and Bill C5 Federally will be vitally important if we are to benefit directly or collectively from what appear to be good intentions.

Economic Development – Update and Emerging Issues

I have appointed myself Chair of the Economic Development Committee on an interim basis to help navigate the changes contemplated in the amendments we will be making. The original plan was for those amendments to be completed by June, but the detailed and complicated nature of the amendments and the subsequent work has meant that we're aiming at making the changes at the next regular sitting of the HFN Legislature in March of 2026. We will have our prospective changes tabled and ready for communication and report leading up the People's Assembly November.

As a result, though, the terms of the board members for our operating LPs has come up for July, and we need to ensure that the appointments are done in a way that is commensurate with the expected changes to the legislation. Such appointments will be made in the coming weeks, potentially into August, depending on availability during prime vacation days. I do not expect to retain the Economic Development portfolio outside of this interim period, but my unique experience in crafting the original act and direct participation in the forthcoming amendments means that I'm likely best suited to navigating the next several months. This is the primary reason for the shift, and I thank Councillor Evan Cook for his dedicated service as Chair and holder of the portfolio for economic development since the beginning of this term of office.

Ha'wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – July 2025

Theresa.n@huuayaht.org

The ḥaw'iih Council is integrated by the Hereditary Chiefs who represent seven houses. They provide the Huu-ay-aht Government with advice and take care of protocol during cultural events.

Its current members are:

- Jane Peters – ḥApwinisathḥ house
- Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – ḥHaw'eḥtak'amłathḥ house
- Phyllis Williams sitting in for daughter Victoria Williams (ḥḥuutstuḥaksa)- ḥlamahuusḥ house
- Andy Clappis (Ciicaacistuł) – Kuukw'iis house
- Sherri_Cook (Yaalthuuuu-uks)– Yaaluuwaštakamatḥ house
- Tommy Happynook (hapinyuuk) – Čačaahsiḥas house
- Alec Frank (łaacmiik) – Maatsaas house

According to the Constitution Act:

2.13 There shall be constituted an advisory body to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council composed of the Huu-ay-aht ḥaw'iih, to be known as the ḥaw'iih Council.

2.14 Representation on the ḥaw'iih Council shall be determined in accordance with customary practices.

2.15 Prior to passing any laws, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council must seek and consider any advice from the ḥaw'iih Council.

2.16 In addition to the role contemplated in 2.15, the ḥaw'iih Council shall assume those additional roles and responsibilities contemplated in this Constitution.

Constitution act

Huu-ay-aht First Nations

page 9

2011

<https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/constitution-act.pdf>

Ha'wiih Representative for Executive Council:

The Ha'wiih Representative attends meetings on behalf of the Ha'wiih Council, then reports back to the Ha'wiih Council. A monthly report is sent out for review. This gives time for any questions or concerns the Ha'wiih may have. It also allows Ha'wiih Council to pass on pertinent information to Executive Council when required.

Areas of responsibilities include: * (reports are done by the Chairs of Committees)

- Ha'wiih Council
- Citizenship Committee

- Nanaaniqsu Society
- Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations
- Nuuchalnat Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries

Ha'wiih Council:

This Council has started meeting twice a month as of 2025. The first meeting will be dedicated to regular business practices. The second meeting will be workshops on helping our new Ha'wiih learn their Hereditary roles, practices and protocols.

Our last Ha'wiih meeting was cancelled, we will reconvene our meeting **August 11, 2025**. We will conduct some business in the morning and will continue with a workshop midmorning to the afternoon. This workshop will include our upcoming Ha'wiih as well. We will begin to include our upcoming Ha'wiih the best we can.

Huu-ay-aht Celebrated their House of Huu ay hat's 25th year July 26, 2025. Master of Ceremonies was a shared duty by: Edward Johnson Jr., Stella Peters. It was an amazing day for all in attendance. Great food, dance and culture were enjoyed by all. A big thank you to all who helped organize this wonderful event with Sam Haugen leading the way, Great job Sam! Tlecko tlecko!

Citizenship Committee:

This Committee meets monthly on a regular basis that coincides with the Ha'wiih Council to ensure that Citizenship Applications go through simultaneously.

Steps for Citizen Enrollment:

- 1) Treaty Enrollment- enables citizens to receive Hunting permits, Fishing licenses, Harvesting licenses and food fish.
- 2) Maamaas-being housed by a Ha'wiih
- 3) Citizenship – ability to apply for a Status Card, Citizenship Card.

A friendly reminder that All points of these applications, Ancestry, Declarations, and identifiers MUST be filled out in full/complete for a successful application, or they will be returned to the applicants, which will delay your application.

PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK YOUR FORMS BEFORE SUBMITTING, THERE IS A CHECK LIST AT THE END OF EACH APPLICATION.

Also new letters have been created to send out to applicants to let them know where and how their applications are doing and at what stage they are at.

ALL Huu-ay-aht Citizens MUST have harvesting cards and the proper paperwork filled out and display the Huu-ay-aht flag on your boat when Fishing. * (even if you are fishing for another family member, there is paperwork for this as well and best to keep on your person when out fishing).

*Flags are given when applications are approved.

This helps us and the Government know how much fish Huu-ay-aht is harvesting. In turn these numbers will help increase numbers when necessary. Without this the numbers will stay low/or the same on how much Huu-ay-aht can harvest. Let's work together to better understand this process to help benefit our citizens.

The Lands and Natural Resource team work together with the Natural Resources Program to monitor and protect our Lands, Oceans and Resources.

Nanaaniqsu Society:

This Society goes dormant in the summer to enjoy Huu-ay-aht Activities and family.

Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations:

The Alliance governs by consensus—to work on an initiative collectively, all member Nations must be in support. Collective projects are tackled by working groups (WGs) comprised of technical representatives from Modern Treaty Nations (MTNs), working with reps from the lead BC ministry. Alliance staff provide centralized support to each WG by providing strategic advice and project management services; chairing, coordinating and documenting meetings; managing records and tracking actions; and by preparing reports, briefings, presentation materials, and other documents as needed. The ED and/or Policy Analyst also participate in working groups to provide additional capacity in support of achieving Alliance priorities. External expertise is contracted to advance priority projects as needed (and where budget permits).

This monthly report on activities supports updating MTN Leadership and the Alliance Management Committee (AMC). Meetings can thus be dedicated to decision making and to having important strategic discussions.

Alliance Administration:

- There is a funding opportunity through CIRNAC that aims to improve public awareness and education of modern treaties in Canada. The Alliance will be submitting a proposal to redevelop our website to be more engaging and to include information and resources about modern treaties in BC. We will be working with 50th Parallel Public Relations on this project. Resources to make changes to our website were allocated in this year's budget. Funding would allow us to expand the scope of this project and would also free up resources for other communications work. The proposal deadline is October 1st.
- 50th Parallel will be working with the Alliance team to design and deliver a communications planning tool to help clarify our immediate priorities and identify effective strategies for increasing external awareness and fostering meaningful engagement. This work, contemplated in our approved budget for this fiscal, will take place during August. The 2 resulting high level strategy will support the development of content for our website and other communication materials.
- The ABCMTN Holding Society held a Board of Directors meeting on July 28 to review and approve financial statements for Q1 of fiscal year 2025/26. We are on target and on budget with no unanticipated expenditures.
- The ED and bookkeeper are working with BDO on the audit of fiscal year 24-25.

Alliance Management Committee:

- The AMC meets on the third Wednesday of each month. The AMC meeting in July was cancelled due to illness (and minimal agenda items).
- The AMC is scheduled to meet next on August 20. Key agenda items include the draft Alliance Strategic Plan, the Premier's Forum technical debrief with BC to be scheduled for September, and the launch of the Senior Officials Table.

Fiscal:

- The BC-MTN fiscal working group meetings occur bi-weekly and include a MTN caucus. The current focus of the WG is on enabling grant funding for transfers made to MTNs through their respective FFAs and fine tuning the draft collaborative fiscal policy.
- BC is working on new draft FFA language that would allow funding to be expended on any treaty implementation related activity, which would essentially allow MTNs to allocate funding as they see fit. Draft language has not yet been shared as BC continues to work internally to address policy questions. We anticipate reviewing the draft language by early September.
- The WG is also working on the grant funding section in the draft collaborative fiscal policy. In the coming months, we will be codeveloping a presentation on the policy so that MIRR can introduce it to other Ministries with the intention of obtaining buy-in prior to going to Cabinet.
- The lands & resources funding model working group meets in Victoria approximately every 6 weeks (with a virtual option) to develop a framework for assessing the incremental FTEs available to MTNs under the L&R funding model. The WG is exploring the drivers that will determine the incremental FTEs and the data needed to show volume, complexity, and role (i.e. how does number of referrals, for example, affects the work of a lands department). Thus far, the technical work has focused on referrals and land pressures (i.e. tourism, logging, and other pressures that affect L&R management and stewardship). The key will be to create a model that is simple and easy to explain to BC Officials, meets the data driven requirements set by the Treasury Board, and that can be applied across MTNs.
- A meeting was held with BC on July 3. To further advance the work before the next meeting scheduled for September 4th, MTNs created two sub-groups—one to work on referrals and one to work on a model to assess land pressures. Each sub-groups met twice in July. Work is ongoing and will be shared with the larger MTN caucus at the end of August to obtain additional feedback before presenting materials to BC in September.

3

- The ED connected with BC to obtain an update on the Forestry Resource Revenue Sharing work that was paused last summer before the election. BC advised they have yet to receive a confirmation of mandate for this work. They hope to receive direction from Cabinet this Fall.

Shared Priorities Framework Working Group:

- The Shared Priorities Framework WG has resumed a bi-weekly meeting schedule following the conclusion of the Premier's Forum. This MTN-MIRR WG focuses on projects related to the implementation of the SPF.

Premier's Forum:

The list of MTN requests and BC commitments raised during the Forum was discussed and confirmed. BC is working on producing a document listing all commitments to inform work planning. The WG is also planning for the technical debrief with cross-ministry staff and senior officials who attended the Forum to be scheduled for September.

Modern Treaty Implementation Policy:

The MIRR policy team informed the WG that they would be leading the

development of the MT implementation policy under the direction of ADM Julia Iwama, and that they have begun early stages of work planning for this project. It is expected that policy co-development will begin in the Fall.

Engagement Review Working Group:

- The ERWG meets on a bi-weekly basis to assess the interest in engaging collectively, including attending information sessions on a specific topic. The WG also debriefs on engagement meetings held and makes recommendations to the AMC for collective action.
- The July actions and engagements reviewed by the working group were:

Clean BC Review Panel:

An independent panel is reviewing the Clean BC program and creating recommendations for changes and improvements. ERWG members collaborated on a collective submission sharing MTN experiences with the program and recommendations that MTN governments could more easily benefit from. The draft submission was sent to AMC for review and approval before being sent to the review panel for consideration in their report to the BC government.

Role of Boards of Education in School Age Child Care:

MTN representatives attended info session on July 31 with the Ministry of Education to receive an update on phase2 of their projects exploring potential roles for boards of education within the school age care system. ERWG members will discuss the outcomes of this info session in an August meeting to determine if any further collective action is desired.

Action 3.15 - Indigenous language names – ERWG members discussed an engagement opportunity MTNs received from the Ministry of Citizens' Services. As the next phase of their implementation on Declaration Act Action Item 3.15, they are exploring how to include Indigenous language names on BC issued identification. The ERWG requested a collective info session to learn more about this initiative, which has been scheduled for August 14.

Development Cost Charge and Amenity Cost Charge (Instalments) Regulation:

MTN representatives discussed treaty notification letters received from the Ministry of Housing advising of amendments to how building developers pay municipal fees. The ERWG decided on no collective action on this item as MTNs have different levels of interest and specific concerns best addressed at a bilateral level.

Taxi and Ride Hail Review:

The ERWG discussed a new multi-year project the Ministry of Transportation is starting which aims to better support smaller local and rural ride hail companies. The Ministry asked MTNs if this work is of interest and how Nations may want to be involved. MTN representatives indicated that this issue was not a high priority for most nations. The ERWG decided that the Alliance would send an email to the Ministry requesting MTNs receive relevant, major project updates as this project progresses.

Amendments to the Skilled Trades BC Regulation:

MTNs received treaty notification letters from the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills proposing to amend the *Skilled Trades BC Act* to remove the requirement for heat pump technicians to need a trades certificate. The ERWG decided not to take any collective action as no concerns were identified for MTN governments.

Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act Amendments:

MTNs received treaty notification letters from the Ministry of Housing outlining proposed amendments to the legislation governing short-term rental platforms (i.e. Airbnb, etc.) in BC. The Ministry of Housing had previously sent early engagement documents to MTNs on this topic and the ERWG discussed the proposed amendments at that time. The ERWG did not to take any collective action on this initiative as no concerns were raised with the proposals

Cannabis Market Controls and Sales at Events:

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General sent engagement letters and background documents to MTNs regarding two related initiatives involving cannabis sales. One initiative is seeking input on proposed sales of cannabis at public events, another is reviewing market controls for cannabis stores and if changes may be needed to them. The ERWG decided that bilateral engagement and feedback would be most appropriate for this topic.

Prompt Payment Legislation:

The Ministry of Attorney General is proposing to develop new legislation to address the problem of delayed payments in the construction industry. MTN representatives requested that the Alliance seek additional information from BC on this initiative and will discuss further once received.

Health Care Cost Recovery Legislation:

This item is under Confidentiality Agreement and details cannot be shared here.

Amendments to the PGT Act:

This item is under Confidentiality Agreement and details cannot be shared here.

Declaration Act Secretariat (DAS):

- The bi-monthly meeting with the DAS took place on July 24.
- The DAS shared their positive experiences at the Premier's Forum, as well as the positive feedback they have received from across BC government following the event. They reported a renewed understanding across ministries of the importance of working with MTNs as partners and the unique distinctions MTNs hold.

Nuu Cha Nulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries:

The Nuu-chah-nulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries, focusing on cultural, management, and partnership discussions Agenda.

Cultural:

- The agenda includes cultural activities such as chants, song remembrance, and honoring past leaders.

- Introductions and check-ins will occur, emphasizing the significance of fishing in Nuu-chah-nulth culture.

Old New Business:

- Review and acceptance of the draft agenda for the forum on June 10, 2025.
- Discussion on previous meeting records, honoraria, and the format of future meetings (in-person vs. virtual).
- Key messages to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) will be addressed.

Management Access:

- Topics include the Trilateral Salmon Accord, salmon allocation policy, and the WCVI Chinook rebuilding plan.
- Discussion on the Pacific Hatchery Adaptation Policy and restoration priorities for British Columbia.
- 2025 salmon forecasts will be reviewed for effective management strategies.

Partners:

- Engagement with partners such as IMAWG and FNFC will be highlighted during the forum discussions.

Nuu Cha Nulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries:

Cultural Remembering our losses: Archie Little remembered Felix, Alvin and Walter Michael, leaders from the past who kept the community strong, together and focused. Remi Tom acknowledged two losses within Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, respected elder Violet George and Cousin Deanna Amos, who both played a role in supporting and upholding Ha'wiih. Kiista (K. Atleo) remembered multiple losses within Ahousaht community of people who knew and practices kuu-us ways: including Louie Frank Sr., Vera Little, Harold Little Jr., Flossie Atleo and Greta Charlie.

- tiitiičwa / ciciqink'yak (chant, continued life):** wickaninnish (C. Atleo) led a chant.
- łayahoo?aał?iitsuš hawał:** Alton Watts welcomed Ha'wiih and other attendees.
- Unveiling Huupak^wanum:** Brandi Lauder, Alton Watts and Tom Tattoosh performed the unveiling.
- nuu?iłwitasniš nuukukqin (Nuu-chah-nulth song):** Led by wickaninnish (C. Atleo)
- łuuni yak^wiimit (we remember past leaders):** The council acknowledged the recent passing of Ha'wilth Patrick James (MMFN). He was remembered as a strong-willed man who always showed up when chiefs called. Chief James was consistent in his dedication and will be missed.
- Nuu-chah-nulth meeting words of the day:** łacšiłwitasniš (meaning "we are going to go fishing") and łitimł (meaning February-false spawning moon). Wickaninnish (C. Atleo) invited the room to say the words, and the suggestion was made that Uu-a-thluk staff spell out future words of the day phonetically to assist in pronunciation.
- Introductions and check-in**

Old and New Business:

- Use of AI in Meetings
- Review, Revise, Accept Draft Agenda for February 11, 2025 (łiisałuumaluuk)
- November 5-6, 2024 Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries meeting: Review and approve Record of Decisions, Action Items and draft Meeting Summary
- Nuu-chah-nulth Naming Process and Council of Ha'wiih Chair Replacement

- e) Herring Fisheries Update
- f) Meeting Honoraria
- g) Nuchatlaht – Fur Seal Research
- h) Salmon Allocation Policy Review Update
- i) Salmon Farms video and discussion
- j) International Pacific Halibut Commission Annual Meeting Update
- k) Developing an agenda and strategy for meeting with (Local reps first?) Recreational Fishery representatives (SFAB and SFI) CoHFoF and SFAB agenda setting.

Management and Access:

- a) JTWG Summary
 - i. WCVI Chinook rebuilding plan
 - ii. Hatchery adaptation strategy
 - iii. Sea otters
 - iv. Intertidal clam harvest areas
 - v. PST Renegotiation

Partners

- a) IMAWG
- b) FNFC

Next meeting and location to be determined

Councillor Aicitah Edward R. Johnson Report – July 2025

Area of Responsibility:

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

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Housing discussion regarding Housing Society, On TSL housing program and Off TSL housing program
- Biweekly meeting with CID
- Attended a land use amendments knowledge-holders virtual workshop with Firelight <https://firelight.ca/>. This meeting was virtual where we went over the project overview. We went through introductions and asked questions touching base on what the project is about, what regulations are we updating, how do regulations work together and why do they need to be updated and we went over the planning process. We also asked the question how are HSN citizens voices leading this work and talked about opportunities and risks. The meeting was two hours - it was great to meet the group.
- We did aTsunami Advisory EOC activation recap at our Anacla Community Planning Committee. We had several agenda items at this committee meeting. There will be some action items going to the Committee of the Whole for feedback at next CoW meeting.
- Infrastructure team did amazing prepping the grounds for the 25-year anniversary of our HOH. The team went above and beyond - really helped contribute to the day.

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Children and Family Wellness Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Attended Shannon's (former director of CFW and then director of our mother center) retirement lunch. Shannon was with us for a short number of years and in those short years she was very impactful. She will be missed and we really appreciate the commitment and devotion that Shannon brought to our nation through strong advocacy for our children and families. I wish her well on her next journey in life.
- Kw'umut Lelum Kids Culture Camp Discussion.
- Bi-weekly meeting with CFW Director - Developing agenda items for our next CFW committee coming up on August 18th.
- Networking and lining up a meeting with BC Aboriginal Child Care Society for talks on potential funding for when our feasibility is completed on our childcare in Anacla. The BCACCS has capital funding available - up to \$5.4 Million for major capital projects and up to \$500,000 for minor capital projects.
- Meeting with MNP/MGA and HFN Feasibility Study Wellness Complex CHRT 41 Application.
- Preparing and submitting needs assessment to Canada at the coordination table. We have a little pause while we are working with BC MCFD preparing and working on commitments

and forming a working group. We are looking to draft a smaller agreement towards the end of September that will lead to a major significant agreement afterwards. Small steps - there is movement taking place and commitments from MCFD. This working group has been meeting biweekly.

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Deputy Chief Councillor

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- NEDC Board
- Task force Group meeting #2 in Nanaimo
- Grant Thornton, Forum and HFN Meeting
- Getting ready for China trip - getting passport and visa for the trip
- Filling in for Chief Councillor
- The China trip was a very wonderful opportunity to represent our nation well. This journey that I embarked on was a journey that one of our ancestors traveled to over 100 years ago. There was a man by the name of George Johnson whose traditional HUU-AY-AHT name was Sawiistin, which happens to be my great-grandfather and a great-grandfather to many within HFN.

July 5 - Cheepao for dinner for an initial meet and greet and discussing the scope of the visit. Prior to dinner, we walked from a very modern part of Shanghai and into an old farm village that had a market with several different local foods and crafts. It was neat to see that they made it a priority to save this part of the village within the city. I brought my drum along and sang a dinner song. I felt it was very important to bring this sacred tool along with me on this journey. There is a 15-hour time difference between China and the West Coast of Vancouver Island. The flight over we were chasing the sun - this was the longest Saturday I have ever had - and back to hotel for a much-needed rest.

July 6 – A 6:30 AM breakfast was an early start to the day. We had a tour of the third highest building in the world then met with international film festival organizer Zon Shih where we discussed festival-based economic opportunities for HFN youth and events for Port Alberni. The conversation led to Chinese ethnic movie festival and integration of Indigenous culture. Zon is a very successful Chinese art movie Producer and Director. This is exciting to think about the potential of creating a Film Festival and the spin off from this relationship. We ended our day in Beijing arriving at 9 PM and spent the evening having a conversation with a senior management leader within HCBY Engineering Technology Group.

July 7- 7 After a 7 AM breakfast we headed to the HCBY headquarters where we spent the whole day with HCBY. We had a presentation on Prefabricated Modular Technology, Container Port Development, Waste Management, Industry Park Development, Tourism & Culture Economy Development. HCBY is Stackabl's business partner in China. HCBY is a leading privately-owned high-tech conglomerate founded in 2005, headquartered in Beijing. Its business spans across prefabricated modular construction, infrastructure engineering, smart manufacturing, petrochemical, renewable energy (solar/wind), ecological preservation projects and visual and experiential entertainment. HCBY's extensive network of investors and partners from different industries will be beneficial to HFN's economic development and we did our presentation as well during our visit to HCBY. While at HCBY, we had the opportunity to Fly Over China. Fly Over China was a

truly amazing and absolutely breathtaking. The Fly Over is designed by HCBY and the technology belongs to them. We ended our day at HCBY's clubhouse located at the base of the Great Wall of China. We had dinner in the small village with very amazing food and talked business into the evening because our presentation was cut short due to timing.

This was a very memorable day. We started off culturally using my rattle calling in our ancestors to witness the conversations and to give us guidance and strength I then talked of the journey that George Johnson embarked on, talking about how my great-grandfather came to these lands over 100 years ago prior to marrying my great-grandmother Louisa Johnson and about how George Johnson brought back gifts such as China sets and Tea sets that still exist in the family today. My great-grandfather used these gifts to ask for her hand in marriage when he returned from China.

I also talked about how great of an honor it was to retrace those footsteps of George Johnson on behalf of my nation. The footsteps that my great-grandfather George Johnson took when he traveled all the way to China from the West Coast of Vancouver Island also had to do with trade economic opportunities for the fur trade which was prominent throughout the Pacific Coast.

We then introduced the team. There were quite a number of representatives from HCBY that we're very happy to finally meet us. They mentioned how they had been long awaiting our arrival and then we gave Mr. Li, the senior executive of HCBY, a cedar rope headband.

July 8- I attended a special EC meeting this morning at 6 AM China time then it was off to the Great Wall of China for a tour. This tour was truly amazing. I brought my drum along and sang a song on the Great Wall of China. We then caught the bullet train back to Shanghai. This train ride took a little over 4 hours at 349 km/hour from Beijing to Shanghai. Once back in Shanghai we had a dinner meeting.

July 9 – We visited a factory and manufacturing plant as well as a tour at refabricated Modular Housing Demo Systems Modern construction. This modern construction meets eco-friendly design with ceramsite and nano cavity modular systems. These lightweight yet durable buildings use ceramsite (expanded clay aggregate) for thermal insulation and noise reduction, while nano cavity technology enhances structural strength and energy efficiency. Quick to assemble, cost-effective, and ideal for sustainable urban development, these modular units redefine smart, resilient architecture. That evening we stayed in a hotel hotel indowntown Shanghai.

July 10- There was a debrief meeting from 9:30 to 10:30 in the morning then a meeting with Shanghai Services Federation (SSF) . Established in 2005, the Shanghai Services Federation (SSF) is a leading non-governmental business organization supporting enterprises across Shanghai and East China. SSF's extensive industry network is beneficial for HFN to strengthen its investment attraction and business development Lunch and then a cultural show of Shanghai. Representatives from the SSF strongly advised that we keep the ball rolling and has offered up meeting space in their office and are looking forward to feature conversations.

July 11- Hungzo to Shanghai was a 5 AM start where we had a visit at a fully automated steel fabrication plant. Then it is was off to West Lake, a very famous site where we had a working lunch at a famous restaurant overlooking the lake owned by the Chinese government. We had special permission to have access to the upstairs VIP dinner room, granted by the Chinese government. These VIP rooms are for ministers and those of high importance. It was a very special moment. Over lunch we talked about culture, spirituality, food opportunities and friendship. Next was tea mountain and cultural tours and then back to Shanghai from West Lake.

July 12 We had a meeting with the Consulate General of Canada to discuss potential areas of interests. On our last day in China, our schedule was quite tight and was happy that we found time to meet with the Consulate. The trip was generously sponsored by our Chinese host who dedicated the majority of their time to the hosting, site visits and engagements and we felt it very important to honor them. Although our meeting with the Consulate was brief, it gave us an opportunity for a meet and greet and well worth it on our last day in China.

In summary, this whole trip was funded by our potential partners Stackabl - so far we have signed an MOU. We are going to explore prefab homes and a potential manufacturing facility in our territory. Through our conversations with our Chinese friends, there is potential for other opportunities that can flourish as we further our discussions and friendship. Our Chinese delegates and partners of Stackabl will be coming to our community in the coming months. All in all, I feel that we represented our nation well. We brought culture, spirituality, and gifts, such as carvings cedar crafts, and smoked salmon from our territory that were well received/

It was a very busy and productive eight days in China where, if we weren't having a meeting, we were talking about the next meeting or having a meeting in between meetings talking about potential opportunities and projects. We shared our HFN culture through songs, talking about our spirituality and four great spirits along with our three sacred principles and how much they align with our friends from China. Their spirituality and culture is very similar to ours, if not the same.

One of the senior executives from HCBY, Mr. Huang, told the story to his daughter of my great-grandfather travelling to China well over 100 years ago, sharing the story of meeting my great-grandmother prior to going to China and how, on his return, he gifted China plates to my great-grandmother and asking for her hand in marriage.

The daughter of the executive from HCBY told her dad, after hearing the story, that she wanted to do something and it just so happens that the wife of Mr. Huang makes modern-day ceramics and the daughter and mother customize-designed a plate that was gifted to me in honour of my great-grandfather. I thought this gesture was amazing. In return, I gifted the young girl a drum that is orange and we talked about the significance of the color orange and the Every Child Matters movement that stems from IRS. There were many people in the room that expressed on how touching the story of the journey was and I could see in everyone's face that we were witnessing something very special, it was truly magical.

On our last evening, I was surprised with another gift - a tea set. The gift was from Tony, Richard, and Johnny. I found it very fitting that over 100 years ago George Johnson travelled this way and went back with gifts such as mine and I am following in his footsteps. This trip was a great honour, feeling overwhelmed with significant emotion.

I think about why and how it came about - this journey to China- and I think about the stereotypes that are perceived in regard to China. The country was built on manufacturing. The growth of China has been significant in a short amount of time starting off small and slowly building, keeping culture in their spirituality alive since they're growth. They have a five-year strategic plan that the Chinese government forms and implements. They are coming up on their last year before they revise and look at the next five years.

I think about the global threat with the current president of the United States, and I feel with our Prime Minister's mandate and China's mandate, as well as other countries, I feel that being a MTN, we may have an advantage in achieving our own mandates, along with Canada's by bonding a new friendship with China and Huuayaht First Nations.

- Attended the annual general meeting for the Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation. I was nominated by another director for the chair position. I was honored to be thought of in that way. I kept my name in for the running of chair although I was not successful but I felt that the running was close. I congratulated the new chair and had some good words for the former longtime standing chair Charlie Cootes.
- Governance Project Law Amendments Meeting.
- HOH Celebration meetings - First initial meetings were biweekly and in the last month leading up to the celebration turned into weekly.
- Attended our Forestry Think Tank Discussion. Our ultimate goal is to create a clear path forward on a strong and sustainable Huu-ay-aht Forestry Strategy. We talked about Macro Forest Industry Perspective, the China Huu-ay-aht Mission trip, Planning and Plan Implementation, Local Forest Industry Perspective, Cawak?qin and Surrounding Nations Work and Impact on Forestry in the area, HFN Gov structure and Evolution and ended with a planning session on forestry Strategy round table decision.
- Attended a ceremony for the signing of a MOU with BCC. It was a very wonderful day to see this happen. We first had the conversation in July 2022 starting off with a Letter of Intent. At the same time we were working on our Community Safety Act. This MOU will represent a new approach to BC Corrections' commitment to improving outcomes for Indigenous clients, and we are honoured by these partnerships and new relationships. The MOU will outline the process for BC Corrections to work with individuals and their community to support reintegration. In accordance with existing privacy legislation, the written consent of the individual will be required to authorize collaboration between BC Corrections' staff and identified representatives of Huu-ay-aht First Nation, and the individual will be encouraged and supported to access available resources. The conversation was started in July of 2022 with the Alberni Restorative Justice in hopes of a partnership with our nation incorporating with our CSA and our Ha'wiih.
- Special Executive Council meeting
- Donation Delivery from IWCD
- HFN and UBC
- Attended FORUM Partnership Agreement Discussion w/Ratcliff
- Chaired Committee of the Whole Meeting
- G to G Leadership Caucus Meeting
- Debrief on HFN Fisheries
- Maa-nulth G to G Dinner Event where we as Huu-ay-aht had a Cultural Performance and then afterwards there was a Signing ceremony for Amended G2G Agreement and then followed by Success Stories Telling by Chief Councillor John and Minister Boyle – it was very entertaining.
- The Maa-nulth G2G Leadership Forum in Victoria at the Delta Ocean Pointe Hotel all day meeting started off with a welcome from the local nation and then we did opening remarks. It was Potlatch style which was very time consuming but very necessary. It was very interesting to hear where everybody comes from and was a good exercise on getting to know one another.

For the morning on the agenda was health and social services and lands and natural resources. After lunch we continued on with economic achievements, our government-to-government relationship as well as emerging matters. After each topic there was time for

Q&A. There was some good dialogue and a strong representation coming from the ministry on various different levels from transportation, a burned sea and climate solutions, MCFD health, forestry, attorney general, housing, public safety, waterlands, and resource stewardship. Our nation was co-hosting alongside the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. All in all, I feel we did a good job co-hosting where the day ended with a prayer song.

- Welcomed canoe journey's that arrived in Pachena Bay on the 24th and 25th.
- Attended our HUU-ay-aht Graduation Celebration at our House of HUU-ay-aht.
- Attended our House of HUU-ay-aht 25th anniversary Celebration.
- Was on Annual leave from July 21st to July 25th

Councillor Brad Johnson Report – July 2025

Areas of Responsibility:

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

Fisheries: The past 6-8 weeks I have been very focused on creating this opportunity for our citizens with a Salmon Pilot Fishery (ME TOO) for August. On average we have met 3-4 times per week working with DFO to create the solutions needed for this Pilot Salmon Fishery. On July 18th 2025 Leadership from Maa-Nulth Nations traveled to Cambell River at the KCFN office to meet with the DFO Minister, the Honorable Joanne Thompson. We had the opportunity to share a meal together and present the Minister with the first official viewing of the video Maa-Nulth Treaty Society has been working on for the past several months.

The Maa-Nulth Incremental Community Based Economic Fishery video was very well received by the Minister and her staff. We had mentioned that we were looking for a commitment from her to work with Maa-Nulth as we are their Treaty partners. We then mentioned that in the past 3 years we have met 3 different Ministers for DFO and several Area Directors. We have expressed the challenges we have faced and that we need to show our citizens that we are diligently working hard to create this economic opportunity. Overall, the Minister made the commitment to work with us and build the relationships that are needed for the bigger picture of this ME TOO fishery in following years to come.

I am happy to announce the Maa-Nulth First Nations were successful in accessing a commercial fisheries opportunity for Maa-Nulth Treaty Citizens under the ME TOO Agreement negotiations with DFO. What this currently means is Huu-ay-aht First Nations will have an opportunity for **6 Huu-ay-aht citizen fishers** to fish in the Area G Troll Fishery starting **August 16, 2025** until September 2025 (end date depends on Interior Fraser River Steelhead Window closure or when total catch is reached) as part of a “**pilot**” fishery.

In the month of July, we had some fishing violations between a few citizens and DFO. I would like to remind everyone that if you would like to access your Treaty Harvesting rights, all Huu-ay-aht citizens must apply and obtain a Treaty Harvest Card. If you fail to meet these requirements this may affect the Nation's compliance with its Treaty obligations and could affect harvesting rights and result in fines and other penalties. The Nation takes its obligations seriously under the Treaty and to protect our Treaty harvesting rights and steward resources for the benefits of citizens. We encourage all citizens to ensure they are properly equipped and informed before engaging in harvesting activities within the Maa-Nulth Domestic Fishing Area (MDFa).

For support in obtaining the required materials to harvest please contact Amelia Voss - Natural Resource Manager at amelia.v@huuayaht.org or 250-728-3414.

Wildlife: The wildlife committee met for a summer roundtable meeting in Macoah, Toquaht territory. I was unable to attend due to being pulled away for an emergency meeting. However, some exciting news was presented to Toquaht Nation and Ucluelet First Nation that the Wei Wai Kum First Nation has agreed to be the donor Nation for a translocation of elk. This has been in the

works for a very long time. On July 18th 2025 I was a witness to the 3 Chiefs of each Nation meeting in Cambell River when the agreement took place. I look forward to seeing this work transpire in the near future and am very grateful to be part of this wildlife committee.

Land and Resources: On July 30th, 2025, we met with the Firelight Group; they are the consultants the Nation is working with on our Land use plan amendments. This was the first time the Executive Council had the opportunity to meet the group. They are one of the largest First Nation owned planning companies across Canada. This group will be working on amendments for Land use plan Regulation/Zoning Regulations/Building and Development Regulations/ Residential Lease Regulations. This project is projected to be completed in the Spring of 2026 after all consultation has been done with citizens and user groups. The initial meeting was very good, and we took a bunch of questions using this app called Menti where participants could log in with their phones to complete the surveys so they could get a better understanding of what we would like to see with this project.

A successful candidate for the Director of Lands and Resources position has been selected, and they will be starting in the position in September as they had prior commitments to fulfill. I would just like to recognize and thank all the staff in this department for their hard work and dedication to the Nation as we have transitioned from not having a director in place at the time. Thank you everyone for stepping up and filling gaps and roles while we transition.

Treaty Implementation: On July 14th and 15th I attended the G2G meeting in Victoria alongside Chief John Jack, Councillor Edward Johnson and our Executive Director. This year HFN was the Co-Chair so Chief John Jack, alongside the Minister of MIRR at the time Christine Boyle, conducted the meeting. This meeting was with the 5 Nations of Maa-Nulth, where Nation reps brought their issues of the past year forward with Ministers from the Province to try and find a solution to issues and work together. Overall, I find these meetings very scripted with dialog, but the real conversations happen with networking and side conversations between breaks. This was my first G2G and I was happy to attend and watch and learn from Chief John Jack who is very well rounded when it comes to these types of meetings and that I am thankful for. Well done to all the leadership who was present and our delegated HUU-ay-aht culture team to perform our HUU-ay-aht songs and dances. Everyone did a fantastic job.

On July 28th 2025, I attended the Maa-Nulth Treaty Society (MTS) Board of Directors meeting. We had an update from DFO that our ME TOO pilot fishery for salmon was successfully approved and signed off by the Regional Director General Anna Classen that morning. This was very exciting news as all Nations have worked extremely hard to make this happen with DFO. We heard some feedback that the Minister was very grateful to meet Maa-Nulth Nations' reps on her visit and that she wanted to reiterate the commitment she had made to work with us and that she appreciated the time spent with leadership.

Nisga'a Nation v. Malii

On July 7, 2025 the MTS Board of Directors approved for the MTS CAO to work with legal to make an application for Maa-Nulth Nations to become an intervenor in the Malii case. An affidavit is anticipated to be signed by MTS President in early August 2025. Letters will then be sent to Canada and BC to support Nisga'a position and encourage broad interpretation of the relevant Treaty provisions. Later that day we held a meeting with Tla'amin Nation and Tsawwassen First Nation for discussion about applying for intervenor status in the Malii case as a coalition. Our stance on this is if Modern Treaty Nations support one another, we have a stronger case as we all have neighboring Nations that could try to assert their rights on our lands in the future.

Groundwater: Negotiations are still in the very early stages. MTS met with the BC team for the first time on July 30th 2025. BC shared their new proposal and stressed that our pre-determined allocation of water is too high at this time. The 4 Nations of Maa Nulth will take back some of the feedback and work internally until we meet again to discuss this file.

Parks Canada: I attended a meeting on July 23rd, 2025, it was regarding the National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCAR). This project is still in the early stages of feasibility. The Terms of Reference (TOR) were looked at as a draft for the first time with some amendments made. What was interesting is that Nations have contribution agreements with Canada until 2027, but Parks Canada only have funding until 2026. They will be submitting a budget request for the fall but if that is not granted then I'm not sure how this project will proceed. Next CMB scheduled for August 11th, 2025.

HR workplace and Wellness: No official committee meetings were called; I am updated of all HR concerns within the administration as I am the chair of the committee. These updates come directly from the Executive Director and are kept confidential. The Nation has sent out an employee satisfaction survey this month to better understand our employees' needs. Some of the questions included: What can we do to improve and support you in your role. This info will be reviewed in months to come. I am very happy to see the work HR is doing to better understand where we can improve.

Special Project the Bamfield Road: The Bamfield road chip seal surface is holding up well with crews patching potholes when needed. With the summer weather, potholes can be addressed more frequently in a timely manner if they occur. I did have a meeting with a representative from Toquaht Nation regarding the steps we took to get our road work complete as they are looking to do the same thing with their road into the community.

Overall, this was a very busy month. I felt I was productive with all the tasks I took on this month. Due to the sensitivity and confidentiality, I found I was unable to report fully on everything I attend to as this report is a public document. The Executive Council is aware of the projects I'm referring to. I am honored to represent our Nation as a member of the Executive Council.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – July 2025

(The report will be short as I was part of the HFN delegation visit to China).

And one week holiday in Southeast Asia).

Areas of Responsibility:

Finance
Economic Development

Finance

The Finance Committee met on July 22. The April finance report was completed.

May and June will be completed for the committee's meeting in August, with July and August materials being ready for September Finance Committee meeting. With HFN finance team fully staffed, all reports from here on in will be on time. Thanks to everyone for understanding the delays due to understaffed finance team and restructuring systems.

Economic Development

HFN Group of Businesses

The Second Quarterly Report for 2025 was completed and presented to the HFNDC.

Earnings, Before Interest, Taxes and Depreciation (EBITDA) showed a substantial improvement over Q1.

The Tourism sector continues to show strong growth with a record number of campground bookings and motel accommodations this year.

Timber Tiles was promoted at a Windsor Wood Plywood Show. The CEO Patrick continues a new Marketing strategy to promote Timber Tiles; also, the product will be incorporated in the prefab homes.

Microtel - STACKABL BC are collaborating with Master Build director of construction Chad Magas on preparing a new quote for the construction of the Hotel. The quote will be completed in August.

China Trip

Following our recent delegate trade mission to China, some of the highlights were:

- Prefab housing manufacturing facilities to see firsthand the technology, equipment and production facilities.
- Tourism collaboration in marketing and creating an Ethnic Film Festival on Vancouver Island - to promote indigenous communities and culture, stimulate local pride and boost economies.
- Trans-Shipment Hub - potential investors in development of a container terminal and logistics hub.

- Registering indigenous business's and opening office in China, improve access and long-term growth opportunities.
- Forestry - Generating more value from our forestry, especially for our red alder for furniture manufacturing. Which is going unmet due to capacity and fibre access constraints.

Councillor Stephen Rayner Report – July 2025

<https://huyuayah.org/councillor-stephen-rayner/>

Area of Responsibility:

Law and Policy Committee (Executive Council Portfolio Holder): As Chair of the Law and Policy Committee, I continue to support the advancement of the Governance Project an initiative focused on strengthening HUU-ay-aht's legal framework in alignment with our values, vision of self-determination, and long-term community well-being.

Although we had to cancel July's Law and Policy Development Committee meeting due to unforeseen circumstances, progress on the Governance Project continued. The project team remained active, meeting to review the latest drafts of the Economic Development Act and the Community Safety Act. These ongoing efforts included detailed input from staff, legal counsel, and elected leadership, helping to ensure both pieces of legislation reflect HUU-ay-aht's priorities and uphold our community's safety, autonomy, and prosperity.

The advisory group met, and work continued to progress. In our meeting we will discuss previous engagements, and next steps. The previous engagements and how to improve engagement with citizens. The project is on track and as we achieve milestones, I will continue to update citizens. We want to ensure this project is establishing a robust and culturally grounded approach to justice and accountability.

We anticipate that a draft of the Community Safety Act will be ready for formal Committee review in the near future. Additionally, we are continuing to monitor developments around the Governance and Fiscal Agreement Regulation, which is central to building strong intergovernmental relationships and enhancing fiscal transparency.

By remaining engaged and collaborative, even outside of formal committee sessions, we are ensuring that legislative development remains on track and grounded in HUU-ay-aht values.

Emerging Issues: Staying on track to deliver revised legislation within the established timeframes remains a key challenge. As the Governance Project progresses, managing workloads and coordinating feedback across departments and leadership will require continued focus to ensure timely completion and community-informed outcomes.

About the Governance Project: In fall 2023, the People's Assembly approved an in-depth review of our laws and policies to assess our governance progress since Treaty implementation. This review ensures that our legal system continues to reflect our traditional values, community priorities, and evolving needs. Phase one focuses on the Community Safety Act and related laws, with future phases addressing financial and economic development legislation. At every step, community engagement remains central to ensuring that the legal framework we build is representative, culturally appropriate, and future ready.

Framework Planning Project (Executive Council Portfolio Holder): As the Project Lead on Executive Council, I continue to actively guide the advancement of the Framework Planning Initiative a transformative effort designed to support responsible development across our ʔahuuʔi, grounded in HUU-ay-aht values and long-term vision.

In July we made meaningful progress toward formalizing the next steps of our partnership with Forum Asset Management. Detailed contract negotiations continued, with significant efforts

focused on aligning legal, financial, and governance elements with the principles outlined in the Framework Vision.

The Economic Development Task Force met again this month and provided critical guidance on investment and revenue models, helping to evaluate the long-term viability of proposed initiatives. The Task Force also reviewed potential sectors for investment and partnership, shaping priorities that reflect Huu-ay-aht's economic, cultural, and environmental standards.

A negotiating team has now been formally established to represent Huu-ay-aht First Nations in discussions with Forum Asset Management. This team is actively engaged in negotiating a long-term agreement that positions our Nation as a lead partner and decision-maker in shaping development on our lands.

Internal coordination and capacity-building have also strengthened in July. We are focusing on refining the decision-making structures and internal processes necessary to manage partnerships and projects as they move into the implementation phase.

The Framework Vision, approved earlier this year, remains our foundation anchoring each negotiation, strategy session, and draft agreement. Every step continues to be guided by our core values and our shared commitment to stewardship, sustainability, and generational prosperity for the Huu-ay-aht people.

Looking ahead, we are preparing for early-stage implementation planning. This includes advancing technical feasibility assessments, finalizing governance protocols, and ensuring community updates and transparency remain central to the process. We are entering a critical phase, where planning must now translate into action.

About the Framework Plan Project:

The Huu-ay-aht Framework Plan is transitioning from visioning to implementation planning. It incorporates community input and outlines a 20–30 year roadmap to shape land use, housing, transportation, and open spaces. Priorities identified through engagement include cultural preservation, eco-tourism, diverse housing, and sustainable enterprise. The next phase, continuing into 2025, will include detailed feasibility studies, policy refinement, and preparation for pilot projects. For the latest updates, visit: <https://huuayaht.org/huu-ay-aht-framework-plan>

Emerging issues:

- Ensuring the partnership and any future investments or developments are in the best interest of Huu-ay-aht citizens and our lands.
- Ensure timely initiation of the second phase to avoid delays in implementation.
- Maintaining clear internal coordination and communication as complexity increases.
- Securing technical expertise to support feasibility work and governance setup.

Clean Energy Portfolio (Executive Council Portfolio Holder): As the Executive Council portfolio holder for Clean Energy, I continue to advance Huu-ay-aht's leadership in renewable energy development across our ḥahuuḥi, guided by the Huu-ay-aht Community Energy Plan. This plan reflects our Nation's long-term vision for energy independence, environmental stewardship, and economic prosperity grounded in Huu-ay-aht values and self-determination.

Anacla Government Office (AGO) Solar Project: The AGO solar installation continues to serve as a cornerstone of our clean energy strategy. With funding secured earlier this summer, the

project has maintained strong momentum through pre-construction planning and coordination. Our contractor is now in the process of scheduling the installation work, keeping us on track for construction in summer 2025.

Key updates this month include:

- Construction remains scheduled for summer 2025, with planning and logistical coordination actively underway.
- BC Hydro rebate funds are still in processing and are expected to be received shortly; once disbursed, procurement of materials will begin.
- The roof mounting system remains on an 8-week lead time and aligns with our project schedule.
- BC Hydro's updated solar incentive program is still expected to relaunch this summer. By aligning our construction window strategically, Huu-ay-aht is well-positioned to take advantage of the new structure to further reduce project costs.

Beyond reducing our reliance on diesel and the provincial grid, the AGO solar project creates opportunities for skills development and internal capacity building. We are working to include Huu-ay-aht staff in project activities and to offer hands-on training opportunities for community members helping to build local capacity while advancing environmental and economic goals.

This project exemplifies our Nation's commitment to energy sovereignty, sustainable development, and infrastructure that serves the needs of both present and future generations.

Sector Engagement & Strategic Partnerships: In July, I attended several important forums and meetings focused on clean energy opportunities for Indigenous Nations. These included:

- Informational Meeting on the Standards for First Nation Consultation related to BC Hydro's 2025 Call for Power
- Meeting with the Ministry of Energy and Climate Action to discuss funding pathways and the 2025 Call for Power
- Meeting with Boralex to explore partnership opportunities related to wind energy and the 2025 Call for Power

At each of these meetings, I networked with industry leaders, government officials, and other First Nations to promote Huu-ay-aht's leadership in the energy sector. These engagements have generated meaningful conversations and opened doors for future partnerships, co-development opportunities, and potential investment in our territory. Interest in partnership with Huu-ay-aht continues to grow.

There is increasing momentum behind the idea of establishing a First Nations Power Investment Group, which could eventually transition into a First Nations Power Authority on Vancouver Island. This concept would enable Huu-ay-aht and other Nations to co-lead the region's energy transition in a way that reflects Indigenous values and priorities.

Project Development & Advocacy: Our ongoing engagement with BC Hydro included advancing the Sarita Run-of-the-River hydro project, highlighting our readiness and capability for Indigenous ownership in energy development. We also discussed the recent \$140 million allocation to the New Relationship Trust for small-scale Indigenous clean energy projects, which we plan to pursue to support our own initiatives.

Unfortunately, we were notified that our \$300,000 application to the BC Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative (BCICEI) for a wind feasibility study was unsuccessful. Nevertheless, the wind project remains a top priority. We are now seeking alternative funding sources to support the deployment of SODAR (Sonic Detection and Ranging) technology for wind data collection, which is critical to establishing the feasibility and investment case for future wind development.

In parallel, I continue to engage with the Ministry of Energy and Climate Action to push for stronger Indigenous participation in BC's energy sector. Our focus remains on reducing systemic barriers and ensuring Huu-ay-aht's renewable energy projects, including the Sarita Micro Hydro and future wind and solar projects, are prioritized in upcoming energy policy and investment decisions.

Multi-Nation Energy Development: In July, I continued advancing Huu-ay-aht's clean energy priorities through targeted engagement with government, industry, and Indigenous partners. I attended an Informational Meeting on Standards for First Nations Consultation regarding the 2025 Call for Power, met with the Ministry of Energy and Climate to discuss funding opportunities, and held discussions with Boralex focused on wind development potential in our territory.

At each of these engagements, I worked to strengthen relationships, position Huu-ay-aht for future partnerships, and explore investment opportunities aligned with our clean energy goals. Interest from government and private sector partners remains strong.

The First Nations Power Authority (FNPA) initiative continues to progress, with ongoing discussions around shared governance, technical collaboration, and coordinated project planning. This work is helping to lay the foundation for an Indigenous-led platform to drive clean energy development, shaped by values of stewardship, sovereignty, and long-term community benefit.

Though this month's efforts were largely strategic and relational, they represent steady progress toward securing future partnerships and energy development opportunities for Huu-ay-aht.

Looking Ahead: The Economic Development Department has allocated funding in the 2025 fiscal year to support a new phase of clean energy exploration. Planned activities include feasibility studies across several renewable technologies solar, wind, hydro, and energy storage to assess site suitability, technical feasibility, and long-term economic sustainability. All efforts will continue to be guided by community input and grounded in Huu-ay-aht's values and commitment to a self-determined, sustainable energy future.

Emerging Issues

- BC Hydro rebate timing: Timely access to rebate funds is essential to maintain the AGO solar project timeline.
- Wind feasibility funding: Securing new funding sources to replace the unsuccessful BCICEI application is a near-term priority.
- Private sector partnerships: As interest grows, ensuring Huu-ay-aht maintains ownership, decision-making power, and long-term benefits is critical.
- Internal capacity and coordination: Preparing for the 2025 Call for Power will require additional technical expertise and streamlined internal collaboration.
- Policy advocacy: Ongoing efforts are required to ensure that Huu-ay-aht projects are recognized in future provincial clean energy strategies, funding programs, and infrastructure plans.

Climate Sustainability (Executive Council Portfolio Holder): In July, while there was limited direct movement in the Climate Sustainability portfolio, I continued to focus on strategic networking and positioning Huu-ay-aht for future climate-related opportunities. Much of the work this month remained behind the scenes but was geared toward laying the groundwork for future projects and partnerships.

I engaged in informal discussions with potential funders and climate-focused organizations, continuing to explore how Huu-ay-aht's long-term development goals particularly in clean energy, ecological restoration, and infrastructure resilience can align with external funding priorities. These early-stage conversations are informing the development of future proposals in areas such as nature-based climate solutions, low-carbon infrastructure, and community climate adaptation.

I also maintained contact with key provincial government representatives, identifying relevant programs that could support upcoming work on shoreline protection, emergency preparedness, and wildfire risk mitigation. These connections continue to be valuable as we monitor opportunities for collaboration and funding, even though no formal applications were submitted this month.

Though July's work was primarily preparatory, it reflects a sustained commitment to ensuring Huu-ay-aht is well-positioned to access climate resilience resources and implement impactful projects when the timing is right. As broader strategic priorities like the Forum Project move forward, climate sustainability remains an important cross-cutting theme in our long-term planning.

Chair of Board of Directors of Huumiis Ventures: As Chair of the Board of Directors for Huumiis Ventures, I continue to work closely with our leadership team and partners, including Western Forest Products, to chart a path forward that is in the best interest of Huu-ay-aht First Nations. Our focus remains on long-term sustainability, values-based decision-making, and ensuring Huumiis' strategic direction aligns with Huu-ay-aht's priorities.

In July, our work concentrated on advancing negotiations with Western Forest Products to structure the partnership in a way that is mutually beneficial while protecting Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests. We also continued evaluating operational and structural options to improve resilience and viability in light of ongoing challenges in the forestry sector, including market volatility, policy changes, climate impacts, and trade pressures.

Our efforts remain centered on stabilizing operations, building a sustainable business model, and ensuring Huumiis contributes meaningfully to our Nation's goals of economic self-reliance, employment, and stewardship of our ḥahuuḷi. While this work is complex and ongoing, the direction is clear: we are committed to thoughtful, strategic decisions that will safeguard Huu-ay-aht's interests and position Huumiis as a long-term asset to our people. I remain optimistic about the progress we are making and honored to serve in this role at such a pivotal time.

Clean Energy Association of BC (CEBC): Board of Directors (Chair): As Chair of the Board of Directors for Clean Energy BC, my focus in July has been on advancing our strategic priorities while preparing for two key upcoming events: the Union of BC Municipalities convention in September and the First Nations Energy Summit in November. Both gatherings represent significant opportunities to showcase the role of clean energy in meeting B.C.'s climate goals and to strengthen partnerships between First Nations, government, and industry.

The Board has continued to collaborate closely with our members and partners to ensure our advocacy efforts are targeted and impactful. This includes advancing the One Window Permitting Approach to streamline project approvals, working to clarify access to the First Nations Loan

Guarantee Program to enhance Indigenous investment readiness, and pushing for regulatory reforms that support large-scale renewable projects such as wind, solar, and energy storage.

Our efforts this month have also focused on ensuring Indigenous leadership is embedded in all aspects of clean energy development. Clean Energy BC remains committed to creating meaningful space for First Nations as equal partners, developers, and innovators, not just stakeholders. This principle continues to guide our policy positions, event programming, and member engagement.

July's work reflects our commitment to equity, sustainability, and responsible growth. As we head into the fall, I am confident that our preparations will position Clean Energy BC to deliver strong outcomes for both the sector and the communities we serve.

Government Relations Committee (Committee Member): In July, the Government Relations Committee maintained strong engagement with government, Indigenous Nations, and regulators, building on the groundwork established earlier in the year. Our focus was on advancing the "One-Window Permitting" proposal toward a pilot launch for renewable projects with majority Indigenous ownership. This included follow-up sessions with senior staff from the B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines & Low Carbon Innovation and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation to refine implementation steps and ensure alignment with broader provincial clean-energy priorities. We also continued dialogue with Natural Resources Canada to shape the expansion of the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program, pressing for more flexible security requirements and faster decision timelines to enable timely project investment.

The committee's Indigenous Partnership Framework moved closer to completion this month, informed by further input from coastal and Interior First Nations on revenue-sharing, cumulative-effects assessment, and joint decision-making models. Policy advocacy remained a key focus, with continued engagement on the Clean Electricity Standard and ongoing promotion of UNDRIP-aligned consent pathways for major projects. Cross-jurisdictional monitoring of U.S. clean-energy policy developments also informed our provincial advocacy strategies, particularly around competitive transmission tariffs and export opportunities. We sustained non-partisan relationship-building by briefing provincial opposition critics to secure broad, multi-party support for Indigenous-inclusive clean-energy policies. These efforts position Clean Energy BC, and by extension Huu-ay-aht, to have significant influence on upcoming policy windows, reduce development risk, and embed Indigenous leadership across B.C.'s clean-energy transition.

Permitting and Regulatory Committee (Committee Member): In July, the Permitting and Regulatory Committee continued its work to ensure B.C.'s permitting system can meet the demand anticipated from BC Hydro's 2025 Call for Power. Engagement with ministries, regulators, and Indigenous partners focused on moving the One-Window Permitting Approach from design toward operational readiness. We emphasized the importance of synchronizing permitting timelines with funding and procurement schedules so that projects particularly those with Indigenous majority ownership are ready to proceed when opportunities arise.

Indigenous leadership remained central to our recommendations. The committee advanced proposals for early-stage Indigenous review and consent processes, and clear guidance on cumulative-effects assessment for projects in Indigenous territories. We also reinforced the need for fast-track pathways for projects aligned with UNDRIP principles. Progress was made on developing regional permitting pilots, with discussions underway to partner with Nations already advancing clean-energy strategies. Work continued on assessing federal-provincial regulatory alignment, especially regarding fisheries, species-at-risk, and federal Impact Assessment Act

triggers, with a briefing in preparation for submission to Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Impact Assessment Agency. These efforts reflect the urgency of modernizing B.C.'s regulatory framework in ways that are both efficient and equitable, ensuring Indigenous Nations including Huu-ay-aht are positioned as leaders in the clean-energy future.

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

Week one (July 1st to 4th):

- Statutory Holiday Canada Day
- Meeting with EcDev officer
- Bi-weekly meeting with Ha'wiih Theresa Nookemus
- CEBC admin meeting
- Framework project task force meeting
- Governance project meeting

Week two (July 7th to 11th):

- Biweekly meeting with lands director
- Special Executive Council meeting
- CEBC admin meeting
- Meeting with Boralex
- Meeting with Ministry of Energy and Climate
- Bi-weekly meeting with Executive Director
- FNNGA meeting and lunch.

Week three (July 14th to 18th):

- Standards for First Nation Consultation engagement session
- Meeting with Economic Development Officer
- CEBC admin meeting
- Governance project meeting
- Meeting with Economic Development officer
- Bi-weekly meeting with Ha'wiih Theresa Nookemus
- Framework project meeting
- Committee of the Whole
- Government relations meeting
- Forestry think tank meeting.
- MOU signing Ceremony.

Week Four (July 21st to 25th):

- Meeting with the Lands Director
- CEBC admin meeting
- BCER Engagement session
- Advisory Circle meeting
- Executive Council meeting
- Meeting with Executive Director
- Away sick on Friday

Week Five (July 28th to 31st):

- CEBC admin meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Ha'wiih Theresa Nookemus
- Land use amendments workshop.
- Meeting with Director for Ministry of Energy and Climate
- Executive Council meeting
- Power infrastructure meeting

- Anacla Community Planning meeting
- Huumiis meeting