



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

**Executive Council Report
June 2026**

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Chief-Councillor John Jack Report – June 2026

General Duties – Chief Councillor – Progress Report

Week One

The first week of June started on a Monday where the day started off with a virtual steering committee meeting with the BC government, followed by an in person meeting in Parksville with Councillor Rayner. I then attended an EDA working group meeting in the afternoon, followed by a Chief's Forum tech meeting and then ending with my weekly meeting with HGB Board Chair. On the Tuesday, I had an in-person meeting in Port Alberni then headed to Victoria for the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Forum welcome reception followed by the fully day forum on the Wednesday. I also attended an early evening virtual meeting with Global Affairs Canada. I then travelled back to Parksville for a change of clothes before heading to Ukluelet to attend the Premier's Forum on the Thursday and Friday.

Week Two

Week two started off with a trip over to Vancouver on the Sunday to attend the FNLC All Chiefs Meeting with BC for the Monday. On the morning of Tuesday, I attended an event at the Harbour Quay where it was announced that Port Alberni was chosen as the winner for the HGTV Hometown Takeover followed by a late morning meeting with ACRD and meetings in the afternoon. On the Wednesday I had a meeting with the ACRD Regional Hospital District followed by the biweekly ACRR Board of Directors meeting in the afternoon. With HFN still being in pens down, the agenda for the EC Meeting on June 11 was light so it was pushed to the end of the month giving me an opportunity to meet with the executive director in the morning, before heading to Nanaimo to attend an engagement session with the local government regarding the Heritage Conservation Act Transformation Project. On Friday morning, I was able to spend a good portion of the morning catching up on emails and administrative tasks before once again jumping into an afternoon of meetings.

Week Three

Monday, June 15 was the first "after pens-down" office day. My week started off with a Law and Policy Committee meeting in the morning, followed by a Forestry working group meeting in the afternoon and finishing the day with the weekly meeting with the HGB Boar Chair and on the Tuesday, I was in an all day Forestry meeting in Port Alberni. Wednesday morning again afforded me the opportunity to catch up on administrative matters before attending a bilat with Councillor Stephen Rayner and Councillor Edward Johnson in the afternoon. Thursday was met with another fully day NIC Board of governors meeting and I finished off the week on the Friday with catching up on emails followed by a portfolio discussion meeting with Brad and Edward and my weekly bilat with our Executive Director.

Week Four

The office was closed on Monday, June 22 in lieu of National Indigenous People's Day which fell on Sunday, June 21. Festivities to celebrate the day were held on the Sunday in Anacla. On the Tuesday, the swearing in ceremony for our newly elected council member, Nicole Malcolmson, took place at the Anacla Government Office – Congratulations Nicole! On Wednesday, I attended an early morning meeting with Framepoint to review the submissions for UBCM then made my

way to Port Alberni to attend the ACRD CoW meeting in the morning, followed by the ACRD Board of Directors meeting in the afternoon. Thursday, June 25 was our first Executive Council meeting with newly elected council member Nicole Malcolmson and the week ended with three more meetings on the Friday.

Week Five

Monday, June 29th was light on the meetings side, giving me an opportunity to once again catch up on emails and administrative matters ending the day with my weekly bilat with the HGB Board Chair. The final day of June fell on Tuesday June 30th where I attended the NTC Board of Directors meeting followed by a meeting in the late afternoon with our Emergency Response Manager and BC.

Progress and Emerging Issues

Economic Development

The working group met twice in June with meetings continuing into July between the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses and the Huu-ay-aht First Nations government. The individual who is conducting the work related to us that this is not a unique challenge, and that many business wings and their owning governments have friction and miscommunication. Her main point was that management and administration needed to take the time to meet one-another halfway and that assumptions and unspoken concerns were making things much worse than they needed to be.

Major Projects

These are largely subject to confidentiality as they are still in process. I count the ongoing work necessary to maintain the Bamfield Road (as it is and as part of a vital alternative route to Highway 4), our work with other Nations and companies in forestry, our work on property development and hospitality and tourism with proponents, and the development of global trade infrastructure in our territory as major projects. They all do not involve just me as their file stewards, however, and thus are subject to their own agenda items during Council meetings and meetings of the Committee of the Whole.

External Relations

Initial introduction meetings with our Federal GR Firm, Bluesky, have concluded and we are now meeting biweekly with our provincial GR firm Framepoint with biweekly's to start with Bluesky in July. One major discussion with Framepoint centered around UBCM meeting requests. The deadline for submissions was June 24 and the nation submitted 10 requests.

Ha'wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) Report – June 2026

Theresa.n@huyuayaht.org

Ĥeko (thank you) to all Huu-ay-aht Citizens for your continued commitment to our Nation and the work we are doing together for the well-being of our people.

Ha'wiih Council would like to take this opportunity to remind all Citizens of the importance of upholding our Oath and 3 Sacred Principles in all that we do — whether in meetings, gatherings, or interactions within the community and beyond.

As Huu-ay-aht, we are civilized and respectful people. Our ancestors taught us to conduct ourselves with dignity, patience, and compassion. We must continue to honour these teachings by ensuring that our words and actions reflect mutual respect and understanding.

Disrespectful behavior — including speaking out of turn, yelling, using abusive or abrasive language, or displaying aggressive actions such as banging on tables — will not be tolerated.

Likewise, any behavior that could be seen as bullying, intimidation, or harassment toward Huu-ay-aht Citizens, Huu-ay-aht Government staff, or HGB staff is not acceptable. We must all do our part to ensure everyone feels safe, respected, and valued.

Ha'wiih Council encourages all Citizens to approach discussions with open minds and hearts, to listen carefully, and to speak respectfully. When we conduct ourselves with honor and respect, we strengthen our Nation and uphold the legacy of our ancestors.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and commitment to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all.

The Ha'wiih 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:

Olivia Peters – ʔApwinisathʔ house – Mentored by Theresa Peters
Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – Haw'ehtak'amlatʔ house
Phyllis Williams sitting in for daughter Victoria Williams (ʔuutstuʔaksa)- Ĥamahuus house
Andy Clappis (Ciicaacistuʔ) – Kuukw'iis house
Sherri Cook (Yaalthuuaa-uks)– Yaaluuwaštak'amlatʔ house
Tommy Happynook (hapinyuuk) – Čačaahsiʔas house
Alec Frank (Ĥaacmiik) – Maatsaas house

According to the Constitution Act:

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

Representation on the Ha'wiih Council shall be determined in accordance with customary practices.

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

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

Constitution Act

Huu-ay-aht First Nations page 9

2011

<https://huyuayaht.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, and in turn, 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 want to relay to Executive Council and vice versa.

Areas of Responsibility include: *(reports are done by the chairs of Committees)

Ha'wiih Council
Citizenship Committee
Nananiiqsu Society
Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations
Nuu-Cha-Nulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries'

Ha'wiih Council:

This council now meets twice a month. The first meeting is set for business and regular business practices. The second meeting is dedicated to helping our new Ha'wiih learn their Hereditary roles, practices and protocols.

Ha'wiih council has started with a cultural opening to bring in our Ancestors to help guide us in our development and decision-making process along with a closing to cover and protect Ha'wiih throughout our daily lives.

We will then begin each meeting with a friendly reminder on the importance of confidentiality, no phones, no recording or mics on and that all materials shared to Ha'wiih are confidential, only to be discussed amongst those on Ha'wiih Council.

It is important that we, as Ha'wiih, remember that we are here to protect the most vulnerable, our women, youth and Elders.

We, as Ha'wiih, are held at higher standards and should reflect that in everything we do, whether it be in office, public or throughout our daily lives.

Friendly reminder -The Jay Treaty is in full use with the Alberta/Montana boarder and that some immigration personnel are not familiar with the Jay Treaty. It is fully recommended to continue to take passports with you to ensure ease of travel. HFN can have a blood quantum form provided for travel and to ensure travel buddies have all documentation with them to easily navigate through your trips. Letters have been written up for ease of distribution when needed.

Haw'ihi Council last met on June 29,2026:

After careful discussion and consideration, Ha'wiih Council recommended the place name **huyuŋii** for the Huu-ay-aht Cultural Centre.This decision recognizes the cultural and historical significance of this place's name. Huu-ay-aht (huyuŋii?ath) are the people of **huyuŋii**.

Ha'wiih Council believes that **huyuŋii** is meaningful, appropriate, and will serve as a lasting and recognizable name for the facility.

Ha'wiih are pleased to provide our recommendation in support of the proposed name **Experience Huu-ay-aht Nisma** (*huuʔiiʔath nismá*) for the Huu-ay-aht First Nations (HFN) Destination Management Organization (DMO) project.

Ha'wiih are now looking into a brand name for the new Growcer Facility to be brought to community.

This project will bring fresh produce to our citizens, with any excess to be sold to Bamfield businesses. The first to be grown is to be determined, leaning towards leafy green vegetables to be the first. A survey was conducted. Here is the link



Survey Results.pdf

Ha'wiih was asked to think and discuss Dance practice songs, as they feel limited to what they can practice at this time. Thoughts about adding to the Culture team were discussed. As well as learning more songs available and the possibility of creating new songs to include seasonal songs. A plan to have a meeting with the Culture team to go over their thoughts.

Ha'wiih had a presentation from Coastal Voices on Sea Otter research by Anne Solomon (SFU), Barbara Wilson (PHD), and Hannah Kobluk (from Haida Gwaii). We learned that the big clams are the breeders and that they must be looked after well. Now is the time in Barclay Sound to build up the sea gardens to be able to understand sizes better. It has been recommended to have Coastal Voices come to Nananiqsu to present as Elders may have much more input.

Ha'wiih housed 6 Citizens this meeting into the following houses:

3 to ʔApwinisathʔ house – Olivia Peters ʔiisʔinʔas sitting in for her brother

2 to Phyllis Williams sitting in for daughter Victoria Williams (ʔuutstuʔaksa)- ʔamahuus house

1 to Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – ʔawehʔtakamʔath house

Ha'wiih then had an update on clam research from Graham Brownlee. He has been up in Powell River to characterize clam development and clam beds and to monitor thermal protected areas vs non thermal protected areas. He will be recording temperatures over the summer months to help quantify this. Graham will be joining Coastal Voices in a dual presentation to Nananiqsu.

Hinatinyis and Adam Werle came for a presentation on the Wordshare Draft Reports update and seeking Ha'wiih feedback on new translation reports. They will begin to meet quarterly to discuss clarifying words and repeat words. There was concern and hesitation changing the old words our ancestors used and understood them written the way they are. This will become a living document with ability to add, change, exclude as necessary.

Ha'wiih was in support of endorsing and supporting this First round. A letter of support will be drafted and sent.

Citizenship Committee:

This committee met on June 9th.

6 citizens were housed into the following houses:

3 to ʔApwinisathʔ house – Olivia Peters ʔiišinʔas sitting in for her brother

2 to Phyllis Williams sitting in for daughter Victoria Williams (ʔuutstuʔaksa)- ʔamahuus house

1 to Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – ʔawehʔakamlath house

Considerations:

Indigenous Services Canada has advised that if a status citizen is removed as a citizen of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations, the individual will retain Huu-ay-aht status unless they formally transfer their membership to another nation or band.

Under the Community attachment Regulation, the following are indicative of an ongoing significant attachment to the Huu-ay-aht:

- a) participation in cultural events,
- b) participation in the People's Assembly,
- c) participation in community engagement sessions,
- d) voting in elections,
- e) demonstrating a knowledge of ancestral familial connections to the Huu-ay-aht community,
- f) conducting oneself in accordance with the sacred principles,
- g) upholding Huu-ay-aht laws,
- h) engagement with the Hahuuli in a manner that accords with the sacred principles and Huu-ay-aht law,
- i) learning to speak the language,
- j) learning or engaging in cultural practices, and
- k) upholding the citizenship declaration
- l) any other criteria the Ha'wiih Council or committee, as applicable, considers appropriate.

The Citizenship Committee recommends that each member of a Maht mahs must maintain a significant ongoing attachment to the Huu-ay-aht First Nation.

Steps for Citizen Enrollments:

- 1) Treaty Enrollment - enables citizens to receive hunting permits, fishing licenses, harvesting licenses and food fish distributions.
- 2) Maht mas-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 must be met:

- Ancestry
- Declarations/Signature
- Identifiers (Birth Certificate, Marriage License, Mortgage, DL, Bills (proof of living together).

These MUST all be included in the application and **completed in full** in accordance with our laws and regulations for a successful application. All incomplete applications will be returned to sender

until the forms are complete and the Committee is satisfied. PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK YOUR FORMS BEFORE SUBMITTING, TO PREVENT ANY DELAYS. There is a checklist at the beginning of each application.

Nananiiqsu society:

This Society met on June 30, 2026. This was Nananiiqsu's last meeting before adjourning for the summer season.

Coral Johnson came to review Nananiiqsu's budget and a New Horizon's Seniors Program Grant and a New Relationship Trust to help Elders and Youth connect.

This is for interactions with Elders both in Anacra and Port Alberni doing things as one with Youth such as:

- A community Garden
- Language
- Bingo
- Lunch
- Loonie/toonie events
- Fund raising ideas
- Family protocols
- foraging for berries and plant identification.

Evening time activities:

- Beading
- Shawl/vest making
- Boating

Coral suggested a museum trip. More suggestions could be:

- smoking fish
- canning fish
- craft night
- cedar weaving
- sewing group

It was suggested to begin to have groups of Youth to come to Nananiiqsu meetings and how to get them interested.

Nananiiqsu discussed how to get the Canoe Journey's up and running again to help gain interest from our Youth. They realize this will be a large undertaking but are eager to begin again.

Elders will begin to set up appointments to go over wills and trusts within house legal coming soon. It has been suggested that you bring in your latest will and any other documents necessary for this appointment.

A discussion on bedside manners from doctors was discussed. There was concern that Citizens from Residential School are being hesitant/reluctant to see doctors and make it to appointments due to trauma-based responses re not being asked to be touched or giving permission to be touched in appointments.

This, in some cases, triggers Residential School survivors, sighting that doctors Do Not have control over their bodies and that doctors must be respectful and be educated on Residential School abuses that went on to give them a better understanding of their patients and their hesitancy at appointments.

Nananiiqsu adjourned and will come back in September of 2026.

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 WGs 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 Alliance Management Committee (AMC). Meetings can thus be dedicated to decision making and to having important strategic discussions.

Alliance Administration:

- The ED worked with the bookkeeper to finalize FY2026 financial reports and to prepare for the audit.
- On May 25, a special meeting of the ABCMTN Holding Society Members was held to appoint a new Board Director. Ryan Anaka, Uchucklesaht Tribe Deputy CAO was appointed.
- The Society Board of Directors was scheduled to meet on May 27 to review yearend financial statements; however, quorum was not met. The meeting is being rescheduled for June. All finances are in order, and the yearend statements are aligned with projections shared with leadership early March.

Premier's Forum:

- The Premier's Forum was held on June 4, hosted by the Yuułu?it'atḥ Government. Although this report outlines activities that took place in May, it is worth noting here that the Forum was a huge success. A summary report is forthcoming. A debrief session with leadership is currently being coordinated and will likely be scheduled for early July.

- MTN Leadership met twice in May in preparation for the Forum.

On May 8, key issues and questions were discussed. Leaders provided additional directions on topics and issues they would like included in speaking notes and briefing materials.

On May 25, leaders were given an overview of the day, a review of the key issues and asks for each topic, and a walkthrough of supporting materials and logistics for the event.

The Alliance, with the support of a communications contractor, produced a written report focusing on progress made since the 2025 Forum, outlining key achievements and identifying areas requiring focused attention. Printed reports were shared with all Premier's Forum attendees. A

digital version is also available (and filed on SharePoint). Additional printed copies are available upon request.

Alliance Management Committee:

- The AMC meets monthly. In the May meeting, we discussed:
An update on logistical preparations for the 2026 Premier's Forum.
Initial drafts of speaking notes for leaders have been completed, with an ask of AMC reps whose leaders were giving opening comments to give them a final review. Preparations for the final pre-Forum meeting with Leaders on May 25, A walkthrough of the agenda for the Executive technical debrief scheduled for June
- MIRR's Executive Director of Legislation and Litigation joined a portion of the May AMC meeting to discuss the new treaty amendment process contemplated in the K'omoks and Kitselas Treaties. BC explained their legislative process and why, in their view, existing treaties would benefit from waiting for the passing of the new treaties to change their treaty amendment process.

Fiscal Initiatives:

Fiscal Working Group:

- BC's Modern Treaty Collaborative Fiscal Policy is being prepared for internal cross-government engagement. The WG has been co-developing engagement materials to support this process, key to obtaining input and buy-in from other ministries. Materials provide a history of collaborative fiscal work, why it is important to both MTNs and to BC, and outlines concepts like grant funding and expenditure need.
- The WG is also working on a document that summarizes land terminology used in the context of modern treaties and self-government agreements to support a consistent understanding across government.

Lands and Resources Funding Model WG

- This WG is developing a framework for assessing the incremental FTEs available to MTNs under the L&R funding model. Treasury Board has mandated this funding model primarily data driven and relates to workload.
- MTNs presented the latest version of a model they have been developing for assessing "land pressures" (i.e. resource extraction activities, and other drivers that affect the work of a lands department) using a multiple accounts analysis approach. A reference document has also been drafted to explain the model and support the indicators and methods used by the model.
- An in-person meeting took place on May 1. BC and MTNs worked collaboratively to outline how the model could be tweaked to ensure the indicators selected clearly reflect workload; how modifiers could be used to adjust for unique circumstances to be outlined during bilateral negotiations; and how the incremental model could relate to core funding. For the latter, BC suggested incrementalism be tied to the work BC asks of MTNs (i.e. responding to referrals), and the core for discretionary. Work (i.e. what the MTNs choose to do in the stewardship of their lands).
- This work is finally advancing in a substantive way. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for June 16. MTNs have been charged with updating the model and reference document. BC will then take the lead in drafting a policy document.

Property Transfer Tax:

- MTNs began exploring discussions with the Ministry of Finance around the possibility of a treaty property transfer tax (PTT) benefit at the end of 2025. MTN reps agreed to BC's request that FNs in advanced treaty negotiations be included in this work to avoid the need for concurrent discussions.
- The work has been slow to start given capacity challenges within the Ministry of Finance. A project kick off meeting was held on May 11 to bring all participants together and to reconfirm the objective—to jointly develop a mandate request with options for a possible treaty PTT benefit. The next meeting is scheduled for July to flush out the project scope and ensure that all WG members have a clear understanding of the PTT framework. Regular meetings will commence in September and are anticipated to take place every 6 weeks.

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)

Modern Treaty Implementation Policy WG:

- The MIRR policy team is leading the development of a modern treaty implementation policy for the province. A dedicated working group with MTN representatives is supporting this long-term project. The WG aims to have a draft policy finalized by the end of the calendar year, with approvals in place by the 2027 Premier's Forum.
- In May, the Project Plan was finalized and the WG co-developed a policy outline. The Alliance is developing an initial draft of policy for MTN caucus review early June. The next WG meeting is scheduled for June 25.

Declaration Act Secretariat (DAS)

Declaration Act Action Plan Review & Renewal:

- The Alliance has been meeting monthly with DAS on the review of the Declaration Act Action Plan, required under DRIPA legislation. The review will inform the renewal process scheduled to commence in August.
- Due to DAS involvement in recent Declaration Act amendment work, timelines for the review have been extended to July 31. The WG met in May to discuss MTN experiences with BC ministries during the review process so far.
- Several ministries have sent requests for feedback to MTNs over recent weeks. The Alliance will be scheduling a caucus in July to discuss potential collective feedback.

Declaration Act (DRIPA) Review:

- MTN representatives have been meeting with the Premier's Deputy and executive staff from the DAS and the MAG since December to determine a potential path forward on DRIPA to address BC's perceived legal risks emerging from the Gitxaala decision.
- The Alliance developed a DRIPA MTN Issues Paper to outline potential risks to modern treaty rights, which included questions for MTN consideration to support the advancement of a common position. MTNs have agreed to work collectively, advocating for the inclusion of a non-derogation clause in DRIPA and in all DRIPA agreements.

- An in-person All-Chiefs Forum was held on June 8 in Vancouver to determine what a potential collaborative process could look like which reflects the priorities of all interested parties, while also meeting BC's deadline of October 2026.
- The process has not yet been confirmed, but will likely include political and technical tables, regional and G-2-G engagements (including MTNs), and another All-Chiefs Forum in September.

Ministry of Attorney General (MAG)

Enforcement of MTN Laws:

- MTNs and MAG have been doing the work needed to implement BC Courts prosecuting offences to MTN laws, something that all modern treaties contemplate.
- A small subgroup of MTN legal counsels and MAG lawyers are co-developing a Request for Decision (RFD) and a Request for Legislation (RFL). Meetings are being coordinated by MAG for this part of the work. The larger working group with all MTN reps received a progress update from the subgroup on May 8.

Anti-Racism Act Action Plan:

- The Alliance had recurring meetings with BC to support the development of the Anti-Racism Act Action Plan. In May, all eight MTNs endorsed the Plan and urged BC to begin implementation. The Plan was released on June 1, 2026. Hegus John Hackett from Tla'amin provided a quote for BC's news release on behalf of the Alliance.

Indigenous Identity Data Standards:

- The *Anti-Racism Data Act* formalizes BC's commitment to using data to identify and address systemic racism. Each MTN was sent the annual data standards package late March which included a report on equity in carer movement in the BC Public Service. Collective MTN consent for the 2026 Release of Statistics was confirmed in May.

Ministry of Waters, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS)

Natural Resource Permitting:

- MTNs are meeting with WLRS regularly on an initiative aimed at reforming several permitting processes in the natural resources sector. This engagement is wide-ranging and has a target of early 2028 for completion.
- The WG met in May to hear updates from WLRS on several planned amendments that were previously discussed. WLRS also shared an initial scan undertaken to identify sections of existing legislation and regulations that may benefit from better clarity around applicability to MTNs. MTN representatives were tasked with taking that scan away for internal discussions with subject matter experts and reporting back to the WG and WLRS during the June meeting.
- Note this file is under confidentiality agreement; the details cannot be discussed here.

Ministry of Forest (FOR)

Heritage Conservation Act Transformation Project:

- In May, MTNs received a draft 3-column document under confidentiality agreement that will be supporting the Ministry of Forest's Request for Legislation to Cabinet. MTNs held a caucus to collect feedback, and the Alliance drafted a collective letter confirming support for the proposed amendments and highlighting areas needing further development in future policy or regulation.

Ministry of Infrastructure (INF)

Infrastructure Projects Act Regulations (Bill 15) WG:

- The *Infrastructure Projects Act* is a framework to allow the BC government use of new regulatory tools aimed at speeding up infrastructure projects. A MTN WG has been meeting regularly with the INF to support the development of regulations.
- Meetings in May began discussions on two tools specific to local governments. One gives municipal governments more flexibility in bypassing zoning requirements or postponing updates to the Official Community Plan to speed up a designated project. The other sees the Ministry appointing a facilitator to resolve constraints municipalities may be putting on a proponent, or if needed, have the province step in to bypass that constraint.
- Meetings over the Summer will continue discussions on these tools.

Infrastructure Projects Act - Expedited Environmental Assessment Process:

- WG members have met jointly with INF, the Environmental Assessment Office, and MTN reps on the EAO working group for consultations on the expedited EA process created in the Infrastructure Projects Act. EAO is leading engagement and development of this regulation with INF supporting. Further details and updates are provided in the EAO section below.

Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions

Renewable Energy Projects Act Regulations (Bill 14) WG:

- The *Renewable Energy Projects Act* transfers regulatory authority for renewable energy projects to the BC Energy Regulator (BCER). The working group meets regularly with BC (Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions) and BCER to engage in regulation and policy development.
- The WG did not meet in May but did review and provide feedback on new language being developed about MTNs in an updated interim guidance document for proponents. This language will be discussed further in the June meeting.

Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)

Environmental Assessment Act (EAA) 5-Year Review:

- An MTN working group has been engaged with the EAO on the mandated five-year review of the EAA. This process is expected to span approximately two years and will follow a phased approach, with separate deadlines for each major priority area.
- The initial phase focused on an amended Dispute Resolution process and creation of a new Issues Resolution Protocol. In May, EAO shared policy documents for both processes which is meant to provide guidance to both proponents and First Nations, and outlines EAO's intended roles and responsibilities in those processes.
- An amended regulation for dispute resolution facilitators will be shared with MTNs for review and feedback in June.

Infrastructure Projects Act - Expedited Environmental Assessment Process:

- As part of regulation development for the *Infrastructure Projects Act* the EAO is leading consultation and drafting of regulations for one of the tools introduced by that Act: an expedited environmental assessment (EA) process. MTN representatives on the EAA Review WG are included in joint meetings with the EAO, Ministry of Infrastructure, and Bill 15 WG. MTN reps on the EAA Review and Bill 15 working groups will continue to work together during consultation on the expedited EA process.
- MTNs submitted initial feedback on the discussion paper presented by the EAO and INF teams in April. Since then, there have been no further updates from the EAO or INF teams on the expedited EA process. An intentions paper is expected to be shared with MTNs soon, which is meant to iterate on the proposed process based on feedback received.

Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs (HMA)

Prescribed Codes of Conduct for Local Government Officials:

- A working group of MTN representatives has been meeting regularly with HMA following the introduction of the *Housing and Municipal Affairs Statutes (Code of Conduct) Amendment Act*. This legislation would enable a province-wide, mandatory code of conduct for all municipal and regional district elected officials.
- The WG met with BC in May and received an update that the legislation (tabled as Bill 17) did not move through the legislature before the end of the Spring 2026 session. The new goal is to introduce and pass the legislation at the start of the Fall 2026 legislative session, before the next municipal elections. The WG will continue to meet with the BC throughout the Summer to develop regulations and policies in preparation for this new legislation.
- Note this file is under confidentiality agreement; further details cannot be discussed here.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG)

Policing and Public Safety Modernization (PPSM) Project:

- The Alliance had not met with the BC team leading this project since January 2025. After numerous reach-outs and intervention from the Indigenous Justice Secretariat, staff from PSSG met with the working group to provide an update.
- MTNs were informed that the PPSM Project did not receive a renewed mandate in January 2026 and therefore the project will not be continuing.
- The working group was also informed that a new project led by PSSG will be starting soon which will aim to develop a Community Safety Officer model for use in First Nation, Modern Treaty Nation, and local government contexts. Limited information is known about the project at this stage, but the Alliance has requested PSSG engage in a distinct and meaningful way with MTNs from the beginning on this initiative.

Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS)

Repatriation Policy Framework WG:

- TACS facilitates a Steering Committee (SC) tasked with supporting the development of a BC repatriation policy framework. The policy framework will aim to guide the repatriation of artifacts held in publicly funded BC repositories. The Alliance has a representative on the SC, and the WG meets prior to BC's meetings to provide our representative with input from all MTNs.
- The WG held a caucus in May to review documents resulting from the engagement process held over the previous year, this includes a *What We Heard Report*. In the Report, a section is

dedicated to MTNs and summarizes input MTN reps have provided in guiding BC to account for the unique needs of MTNs in this work. Feedback on the Report was shared with the BC, including a request to provide more fulsome quotes in the documents to better represent the full context of information shared.

- It is expected that BC will share next steps for this project over the Summer.

Engagement Review Working Group:

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

Potential Wildfire Act Updates:

MTN reps attended a collective info session at the end of April with a team from the Ministry of Forests who are exploring updates to the Wildfire Act. Primary topics of interest for MTNs included the potential for Provincial cost recovery provisions to apply to Modern Treaty Nations and determining clarifications needed regarding jurisdiction over wildfire prevention activities. ERWG members discussed this info session in May and requested that BC be proactive in reaching out to Nations to review relevant MTN language that may be considered. The Alliance requested MTNs be contacted by the BC team when there are project updates ready for sharing.

Homeless Individuals and Families Information System:

The Ministry of Housing and Municipal affairs provided an update to MTNs on a pilot project to improve governance structures and data management for municipal and provincial systems supporting individuals experiencing homelessness. ERWG members reviewed the updates and requested to continue receiving relevant project updates as this initiative continues.

Amendments to the Employment Standards Act:

MTNs received emails from the Ministry of Labor seeking suggestions to support successful implementation of amendments to two acts aimed at increasing worker protections. The majority of MTNs are of the legal opinion that federal employment laws are most relevant to their governments, not provincial statutes. It was decided that no collective action would be taken on this initiative.

Health Professions and Occupations Act:

The Alliance was provided with pre-engagement information from the Ministry of Health to share with MTNs regarding additional amendments to the Health Professions and Occupations Act.

The next set of amendments may include protections against certain high risk medical treatments, as well as expand protections against discrimination and sexual harassment for non-patients in a medical setting. ERWG members have begun internal reviews with subject matter experts, and this initiative will be discussed further in June after more information is collected.

FEDERAL INITIATIVES

Fisheries: Salmon Allocation Policy Review

- Anita Blakley of LGL has been representing MTNs on the Salmon Allocation Policy Multi-party working group and First Nations-DFO Committee. She has also been participating in FNFC meetings as the Council has been active in this work. Anita provides updates and makes requests for MTN input through Fisheries WG.
- The Multi-Party WG made its submission to DFO in April which included MTN concerns with the policy, such as Nations not receiving a draft version of the Policy, the need for flexibility for treaty-based fisheries, the misuse of outdated socio-economic data in allocation decisions, and the potential infringing upon modern treaty rights by restricting bycatch allowances.
- Anita informed the WG that the FNFC is hosting a webinar on June 24 to provide an overview of the SAP review process, a summary of recommendations, and a status update with next steps.

Renewal of the Federal Consultation and Accommodation Guidelines (CIRNAC):

- The Alliance ED has been participating on the Indigenous-Crown Steering Committee (ICSC) established to support the renewal process of the Consultation and Accommodation Guidelines.
- Draft guidelines were received at the end of April under a non-disclosure agreement and subsequently shared with MTN reps for review. A caucus meeting took place on May 6 to discuss the initial analysis provided by the Alliance's legal support and to collect MTN thoughts on a desired collective response. A collective letter was submitted on May 20.

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

Key messages to DFO from the Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries meeting:

The following key messages identify priority matters for discussion with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), including areas where continued collaboration, funding, and clear federal commitments are needed to support Nuu-cha-nulth priorities for salmon rebuilding, marine conservation, fisheries management, and related governance processes.

- 1- PSSI Renewal – Nuu chah nulth Nations appreciate the Minister and here PSSI team reaching out to Indigenous groups and others for input on the key successes, remaining gaps, and opportunities to strengthen the important, foundational work of the PSSI program.

In early 2022, Nuu cha nulth Nations provided the PSSI Team with a submission titled: WCVI Salmon management priorities from Nuu chah nulth Nations for the Pacific Salmon Initiative. This submission identified Nuu chah nulth management, research and rebuilding priorities for many WCVI salmon populations. Several of these priorities were successfully addressed in whole or in part during PSSI 1 such as:

- i) Completion and Ministerial sign-off of the WCVI Chinook Rebuilding Plan in March 2025. A remaining gap is securing the funding needed to implement the management measures identified in the plan and support the rebuilding of WCVI wild Chinook populations.
- ii) Improved understanding of early marine distribution and stressors affecting WCVI juvenile Chinook. Further work is still needed, particularly to improve understanding of early marine mortality.
- iii) Mass marking of WCVI hatchery Chinook production at two of the major WCVI hatcheries to improve hatchery/wild Chinook interactions and management, along with increased stewardship capacity directed toward salmon-related research and management within

the NTC Fisheries Program. Mass marking has allowed Nuuchalkulth Nations to work with DFO to begin addressing hatchery Chinook straying. Expanding the mass marking program to the third major hatchery at the Nitnaht River is needed.

Request to DFO:

As PSSI moves into renewal, Nuuchalkulth Nations request continued investment in the priority areas that remain essential to WCVI salmon rebuilding a sustainable fisheries management, including funding to implement rebuilding measures, advance research on early marine mortality, expand mass marking, and maintain stewardship capacity. Nuuchalkulth Nations and NTC Uu a thluk Fisheries look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with DFO staff to ensure the renewed PSSI builds on the progress achieved to date and delivers strong, lasting outcomes for WCVI salmon and the fisheries that depend on them.

2) Tang.Gwan – hacx wiqak- Tsigis Marine Protected Area – Nuuchalkulth Nations have been involved in the development of the Tang.Gwan-hacx wiqak-Tsigis Marine Protected Area beginning in 2025. Since 2018, DFO has provided resources for Nuuchalkulth Nations to be significant partners in the development of the Tsigis Marine Protected Area Management Board MOU Technical Committee, including resources to support the two Nuuchalkulth members of the Management Board. The funding agreement that supported effective Nuuchalkulth participation in the management of the Marine Protected Area expired on March 31, 2026, and DFO is asked to confirm renewed funding agreement will be implemented.

Request to DFO: DFO is asked to confirm renewed funding to support continued Nuuchalkulth participation in the Marine Protected Area governance and management process. Without resources to support continued participation, Nuuchalkulth Nations will need to reconsider their support for the MPA and may conclude that Canada is not meeting the commitments set out in the Tang.Gwan-hacxwiqak-TsigisMarine Protected Area MOU Agreement.

3) **Trilateral Salmon Accord** - Nuuchalkulth Nations have supported the concept, goals, and principles of the “Trilateral Salmon Accord.” This support is conditional on senior levels of government providing the consistent funding needed to turn the Accord’s goals and principles into implemented objectives that will support the rebuilding of WCVI salmon populations and sustainable fisheries for Nuuchalkulth Nations and other harvesters of WCVI salmon.

Request to DFO: DFO is asked to confirm sustained senior-level funding commitments and a clear implementation pathway for the Accord.

4) **Marine Mammal Management** - Over the past year, Nuuchalkulth Nations and DFO Marine Mammal Science have worked to improve communications and build stronger working relationships. The renewed relationship has resulted in improved communication and a better shared understanding of various WCVI marine mammal populations, as well as agreement to work together to improve understanding of these populations and their management. This includes exploring management measures that control sea otter populations in key shellfish harvest areas while maintaining their overall population and distribution. Nuuchalkulth Nations anticipate working collaboratively with DFO in 2026 and 2027 to investigate management measures that fulfill these objectives.

Request to DFO: DFO is asked to continue supporting this collaborative work, including the development and assessment of practical management options for key shellfish harvest areas.

5) **Pacific Salmon Commission** – At the Feb 27, 2019, meeting of the Nuuchahnulth Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries (CoHFoF), members supported Mr. Jared Dick being mentored for a future role on the Pacific Salmon Commission's (PSC) southern Panel by Southern Panel member Dr. Don Hall. Mr. Dick has been mentored in the PSC Southern Panel process since that time and, in early 2026, was nominated to be a Southern Panel member based on his knowledge of the role and professional manner he has displayed during PSC functions over the past several years.

The Council of Ha'wiih Forum on Fisheries met on June 2, 2026 and endorsed Mr. Dick's appointment to the PSC's Southern Panel.

Request to DFO: DFO is asked to support and advance Mr. Dick's appointment to the Southern Panel.

6) **Recreational Fisheries Monitoring** – DFO presented a summary of improvements to recreational fisheries monitoring under *the Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative's Harvest Transformation Pillar* at the June 2, 2026 CoHFoF meeting. While the improvements DFO outlined, including changes to iRec, the creel survey process, and gear regulations, will improve overall management of recreational marine fisheries, they do little to address the fundamental management issue in marine recreational fisheries in BC. Specifically, DFO should move away from "Expected Catch" management in marine recreational fisheries and implement TAC-based management for recreational fish allocations, as has been successfully implemented in recreational halibut fisheries.

Request to DFO – DFO is asked to develop a pathway toward TAC-based management for marine recreational fisheries, beginning with clearer allocation, monitoring, and accountability measures.

Next meeting date to be announced.

Councillor Aicitah Edward R. Johnson - June 2026

Area of Responsibility:

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

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

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure

<https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/infrastructure-policy-regulation-2011-official-consolidation.pdf>

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Received Invitation to Participate in the BC Road Safety Strategy 2030 Engagement Session. The Province of British Columbia is developing the BC Road Safety Strategy 2030 (BCRSS 2030) to guide road safety work across the province from 2026–2030 and support progress toward Vision Zero, the long-term goal of realizing zero fatalities and serious injuries on BC roads. As part of this work, engagement is being undertaken to gather feedback on the draft Framework and first Rolling Action Plan from partners, communities, and organizations whose perspectives can help inform the future direction of this work. To support this engagement process the Province has engaged Elevate Consulting to assist with coordinating discussions, facilitating engagement sessions, and Collecting participant feedback.
- Sent out Briefing note re Water/sewer Connection to Cultural Center for feedback for review.
- Started reporting on my committee for the Annual Report 2025-2026
- The Anacla quarry contractor is on site and the pre-process for material production has begun and is estimated to take 6-8 weeks to complete It's been a long time coming to get to this point looking forward to future in kind contributions on projects stemming from this work Great work our infrastructure team has done
- Attended Biweekly meeting with Director of Infrastructure & Capital Projects Infrastructure
- The Anacla technical staff have continued to develop their skills with supervisor training and furthering their certification in potable water distribution.
- The Cultural Centre construction is progressing. The concrete floor has been poured and the siding is starting June 8th. The contract for the water/sewer connection will be awarded in July 2026. Significant movement has taken place this capital project has been in the works for a significant amount of years glad to see movement with this project.....
- Attended the Bamfield Road Safety Association meeting.
- The Oomiiqsu upgrades contract has been awarded. Construction schedules will be finalized in June with work commencing once that is agreed upon.
- CCDC discussion on contracting
 - CCDC discussion on contracting meeting with key staff and our in house legal regarding CCDC contracts.

- The feasibility study for the Wellness/Daycare was presented to COW in April and Ha'wiih in June.

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Children and Family Wellness Committee

<https://huyuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/citizen-development-regulation-2012-official-consolidation.pdf>

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Attended Information Circle Huu-ay-aht First Nations with MCFD Staff.
- Biweekly meeting with Director of Child and Family Wellness.
- Working with Framepoint on a meeting with the Green party. Meeting will be on Treaty Amendments.
- Attended our Coordination table agreement internal update meeting.
- Onboarding of new Family Preservation Worker aligning with CFW Recommendation #18. FPW has started creating family lineage documents and culture plans for children in care.
- Introduction to Tsilhqot'in National Government re: Coordination Agreement. This meeting was very informative - great networking! Thanks to Denise Devenny for introducing our two nations. It was great to collaborate and I'm looking forward to future discussions.
- Dad's Connect – FPW connected to Drew from Dad's Connect to collaborate on bringing services for fathers to the community in a virtual space, acknowledging the need for healthy, supportive resources for Huu-ay aht fathers that also encompass Huu-ay-aht culture and is led by a Huu-ay-aht father. This movement generated from a gathering last year called Our Children Our Way. It was a breakout information session and I'm happy to see this flourish from the conversation to open networking.
- MCFD meeting - In attendance were senior management from HFN, senior management from MCFD as well as political leader Assistant deputy minister Keith. Political representatives on HFN side were Chief Councillor John Jack and myself as portfolio holder. We discussed how Phase 2 negotiations are going and are hoping to have something solid by the middle of July. I'm looking forward to bringing to council at last council meeting of July.
- Started work on this committee for the Annual Report 2025-2026
- Art Therapy for Huu-ay-aht Youth – For Huu-ay-aht Youth ages 13-15, CFW has sponsored art therapy groups with Brianna Harvey at Peaks & Valley's Art Therapy. This came together as a result of Huu-ay-aht citizens reaching out to inquire about youth programming after the women's rounds.
- Kids in Care Quarterly meeting - This will be an ongoing, quarterly event for Huu-ay-aht children who are in care to come together for pizza, activities, culture, and connection. This is in support of the strategic plan post #2 – that “all Huu-ay-aht children will grow up safe, healthy, and connected to our language, culture, and values guided by our traditions and our Nananiqsu.”
- Number of citizens seen through the CFW department was 58 and the number of adverted removal supports was 37.
- Community engagement sessions took place this month hitting all locations - Anacla, Port Alberni, Nanaimo Vancouver and Victoria. These were held during the final week of June. These five distinct engagement sessions provided Huu-ay-aht families and citizens with

critical updates on the nation's independent legislative path and milestones achieved alongside federal and provincial partners. The focus was on the Yaaʔakap (to embrace) Child and Family Wellness Act, Huu-ay-aht's own foundational child welfare legislation, as well as the historic yaaʔakapʷin (we are embracing) shared interest agreement. With these engagement sessions we journeyed through time talking about significant stages in history when it came to children and families, first and foremost becoming a modern treaty nation and exercising our treaty and lawmaking authority. We also talked about the protocol agreement that was signed back in 2015 with USMA, a delegated agency in Port Alberni and in 2016 when we embarked on the information gathering forming the arms-length report, Safe Healthy and Connected, where our 30 recommendations stem from, with the report being completed in 2017 our nation contributing funds to start implementing 2018 when our nation received a significant amount of funds to start a pilot project on implementing 30 recommendations.

That same year, in 2018, we started conversations with BC Housing regarding recommendation 26 - the Mother Centre. In January of 2022, we embarked on bill C-92. Our jurisdictional journey started one year later after silence coming from the feds. We talked about our ACT passing through HFN legislation. Our HFN CFW act is not in full force as of yet. To bring into force, we need long term sustainable funding which we are negotiating with BC and Canada. Later in the same year, 2023, we signed a protocol agreement with KL, a delegated agency on the East Coast of Vancouver Island.

In 2024, we embarked on the Canadian Human Rights tribunal work. With this work, we were able to receive a significant amount of funds to pay for our lease at our Mother Center which is located in Port Alberni, along with three vehicles and a significant amount of laptops for youth. As of now, we are working through a design phase for the Cultural Wellness Center located on our homelands adjacent from our government office.

In January of 2025 the Mother Center doors opened! This was a significant milestone and was one of our last recommendations to implement.

In December 2025, we signed the shared interest agreement with MCFD, a significant milestone and very foundational piece that we could fall back on to use. We are currently working through a phase two agreement. We are getting close to finalizing an agreement within the next year. There are needs assessment still to be completed as well as treaty amendments in Canada's legislation and in BC's legislation to amend the geographical limitation on our treaty lands. These engagements are a key milestone.

It's a great moment in time for our nation to share our progress over the years and I'm looking forward to negotiations with Canada and BC. It feels good to look back and reflect on how far along we have come and it is an absolute joy and privilege to represent our nation as a political leader with this portfolio. In looking back it feels good to have been a part of the beginning stages and to be able to help and see these recommendations unfold.

Timeline of Key Milestones:

- 2011: Huu-ay-aht becomes a Modern Treaty Nation under the Maa-nulth Final Agreement, establishing the right to self-government.
- 2015: Huu-ay-aht and USMA signed Protocol Agreement

- 2016–2017: The Independent Social Services Panel is formed, delivering 30 recommendations focused on prevention and family unity.
- 2018: Huu-ay-aht secures \$4.2M in federal funding alongside provincial support to launch its proactive Social Services Project.
- 2018: Huu-ay-aht & BC Housing begin conversations regarding ʔumʔiiqsu Centre
- 2020: Federal Bill C-92 comes into effect, legally recognizing Indigenous jurisdiction over child and family services across Canada.
- 2022: B.C. passes Bill 38, The Indigenous Self-Government in Child and Family Services Amendment Act. This Act, along with the Bill C-92, upholds the inherent rights of Indigenous communities to provide their own child and family services. B.C. became the first province in Canada to recognize an inherent right of self-government specifically in provincial legislation.
- 2023: The *Yaaʔakap Child and Family Wellness Act* is officially passed by the Huu-ay-aht legislature.
- 2025: The ʔumʔiiqsu Mother Centre opens its doors. In December, the historic *yaaʔakap^win agreement* is signed with MCFD.
- 2026: The *yaaʔakap^win agreement* takes effect. Huu-ay-aht launches a province-wide government-to-government training tour for over 130 MCFD staff members.
- 2026 (Current): June multi-community engagements wrap up as leadership enters Phase 2 negotiations with MCFD, targeting operational alignment by the end of summer.

Navigating the Next Five Years

The June community engagements mark an important milestone for Huu-ay-aht as it embarks on the next significant phase of self-determination. Leadership and staff are currently collaborating with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) on a comprehensive five-year federal legislative review of Bill C-92, which is titled "An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children, youth, and families." This bill, passed in 2019, affirmed the inherent jurisdiction of Indigenous communities over child welfare.

Ensuring that citizens are well-informed through these conversations allows community voices to influence upcoming relationships directly, coordination table agreements, and the broader prevention strategy for 2026–2031, by grounding modern legislative pathways in ancient sacred principles, ʔiisaak (greater respect), ʔuʔaʔuk (taking care of), and Hišukma cʔawak (everything is one). Huu-ay-aht citizens and staff continue to build a sovereign system of care. This system aims to provide a safe and healthy environment for the next generation, fostering a deep connection to their culture

- Attended our MMIWG BBQ at HFN Port Alberni Government office
- Programs and services continue to perform well at our Oomiiqsu Mother Center as well as our daycare.
- Design phase completed for our childcare center on our homelands. Currently working with BC Aboriginal Child Care Society in regards to funding that is being made available to us for the next step design phase.
- Also in conversations with the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society in regards to celebrating 30 years of BCACCS. Given that our nation was one of the first out of the gate, I'm looking forward telling our story
- Attended 5K walk to create awareness for men's mental health. It was a wonderful walk from lower Anacla to upper Anacla and back.

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Deputy-Chief Councillor

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Attended Declaration Act Chiefs Forum Technical Pre-Brief (in advance of June 8)
- Attended HFN / HGB Working Group
- Attended national aboriginal day on our homelands
- Attended swearing in ceremony for our new council representative
- Chaired committee of the whole
- Had a portfolio discussion with our chief councillor
- Attended Premier's Forum - Ucluelet
- Attended All Candidates Meeting – Victoria
- Attended All Candidates Meeting in Nanaimo
- Attended All Candidates Meeting in Port Alberni
- Attended All Candidates Meeting on the mainland
- HFN/ Global Affairs Canada (GAC) - This meeting was a Pre China Meeting Discussion to go over due diligence and general guidance. Meeting was with the A/Deputy Director and Trade Commissioner Indigenous Business and Clean Technologies. Leading up to this meeting. Songmin reached out to us, Songmin is a Trade Commissioner for Global Affairs Canada
- Attended our Affordable Housing Manufacturing Project Pre-feasibility weekly meeting
- As Deputy Chief Councillor I am a part of a working group with our Huuayaht Group of Business and our Huuayaht Government.
- Attended our MMIWG BBQ at HFN Port Alberni Government office
- Affordable Housing Project (Stackabl) - The Modular housing project pre-feasibility consultant UPL1FT has started and has completed the first round of stakeholder engagements. Milestone 1 & 2 are delivered. We are expecting information from SHBC to be able to deliver the milestone 3 & 4. SHBC will share the information by June 6th. Anticipated CSA certification progressing, a key step towards enabling use in the Canadian Market. The certification is due by end of May 2026.
- Biweekly Bilat John/Edward
- EC Agenda Review meeting
- Chaired COW meeting
- EC Portfolios <https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/EC-Portfolios-September-2025.pdf>
- **China trip** - Representing our nation in a good way, I was asked to represent our hereditary leadership on council and as well as our Chief Councillor I was asked to step in. It was an honor and a privilege to accompany portfolio holder Councillor Cook as well as our economic development officer.

Project Overview - The Stackabl Affordable Housing initiative is being explored as a potential opportunity to address housing affordability challenges while creating long-term economic development opportunities for Huu ay-aht First Nations (HFN). HFN's interest in the initiative extends beyond housing procurement. The project is being evaluated as a

potential opportunity to participate in housing supply chains, value-added manufacturing, workforce development, forestry utilization, and Indigenous economic participation in Canada's housing sector. Since Fall 2024, HFN has been working closely with Stackabl Homes BC (SHBC) and their manufacturing partner, Space-O Manufacturing, to better understand the technology, market opportunity, certification requirements, supply chain considerations, and potential long-term economic development opportunities associated with the initiative. The current objective is to determine whether sufficient justification exists to advance toward a full feasibility study and evaluate potential partnership opportunities.

Huu-ay-aht First Nations has been exploring a modular housing and manufacturing opportunity over the past 18 months as part of our broader economic development strategy. During that time, we have undertaken multiple due diligence visits, engaged with industry partners, and explored how innovative housing technologies could help address both housing needs and economic development opportunities within Indigenous communities and rural regions.

We are currently assessing the opportunity from a market, governance, manufacturing, and implementation perspective, with a particular interest in understanding the broader Canadian housing innovation landscape, Indigenous participation in housing supply chains, and potential pathways toward assembly and manufacturing in Canada.

An additional highlight of the mission was a meeting with Beijing Forestry University. Discussions focused on potential opportunities to incorporate Huu-ay-aht forestry resources and Canadian wood products into future housing manufacturing activities. The meeting also explored opportunities for collaborative research related to forestry innovation, wood products, and sustainable construction. Beijing Forestry University currently collaborate and work with University of British Columbia. The university expressed interest in continuing discussions and exploring future areas of collaboration.

Throughout the journey I felt our ancestors with us I kept our 3 sacred principles in mind when I spoke and being a long ways from home I prayed to our four great spirits for a safe journey. represented the nation in a good way was an honor to represent our people I often thought of our ancestors that have made this journey in the past

Emerging Issues

- None at this time.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – June 2026

Finance Report

The finance committee met on June 23. The May report was not completed in time. The finance team has very important priorities which is completing a Program Report (First Nation Child and Family Services) as an example. This report will include a spending report up to the last five years. The Report is to be updated and completed, so that funds received can be accounted for up to March 31, 2026. Any funds not accounted for and received would have to be paid back to Indigenous Services Canada.

Financial Process Mapping

The financial Team continues to identify areas for improvement to boost efficiency and productivity. This will include a value stream map being applied to identify financial waste and improve overall services to the nation. This will also include budgeting, financial analysis and forecasting a short- and long-term financial plan.

Economic Development Report

STACKABL (SHBC) -updates and progress report

Stackabl Homes has obtained a CSA A277 certificate for prefabricated wood structures up to 2 stories. This provisional will permit us to construct wood structures used in single family homes, workforce housing, duplexes and some types of multiplex homes. All lumber will be Canadian sourced. The long-term goal is to continue to grow our network of locally source materials wherever possible, like Timber Tiles or Dicofoam Insulation.

There will be possibly two phases to an assembly manufacturing plant on possible TSL.

- 1) An assembly facility designed to complete final assembly. This would be a staging area prior to the subject site.
- 2) A fully automated factory (80-90% robotic built) that will deliver housing to the same speed and standard as the Chinese factory. We are hoping to have a factory deployed as soon as possible, in 2 -3 years. We will be assessing a sales pipeline and targets to establish a manufacturing facility.

Forestry Value-added Products

The HFN delegation to China had a meeting with the Beijing Forestry University. We had a tour of the Wood processing and Analysis laboratory. Some of the programs being done by the university are developing and optimizing wood modification methods, including thermal modifications and design installations for wood drying and thermal modification. This was very helpful and positive as the majority of our forestry species is hemlock. The University will collaborate and exchange methodology with the University of B.C. on effective wood technologies.

Growcer: Self growth Produce Project

The project is moving ahead, with expected delivery of Container farming units for end of June or early July. Once installed the units will produce fresh vegetables and strawberries and low bearing fruit.

Councillor Stephen Rayner Executive Council Report – June 2026

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

Area of Responsibility:

Law and Policy Committee (Executive Council Portfolio Holder) In June, the Law & Policy Committee continued to advance important legislative and policy work for Huu-ay-aht First Nations. The Committee held a meeting on Monday, June 15, where several key policy items were reviewed and discussed.

At the meeting, the Committee reviewed the Maintenance Policy, Rental Support Policy, First-Time Homebuyers Policy, Healthy Homes Policy, Staff Housing Policy, and Travel Expense Policy. For each item, the Committee reviewed the materials, asked questions, provided feedback and recommendations, and identified minor alterations where needed. Following discussion, the Committee recommended that these policies move forward to Executive Council for consideration and approval.

The Committee also continued to make progress on the Economic Development Act. This month, work continued through the Economic Development Act working group, which I sit on. The focus remains on updating the Act so that it better supports Huu-ay-aht's governance, economic development priorities, and long-term interests. This work continues to move forward and remains an important priority within the Law & Policy portfolio.

Overall, June was a productive month for the Law & Policy Committee. The Committee advanced several important policies to Executive Council, continued to support improvements to Huu-ay-aht's legislative framework, and remains focused on ensuring that Huu-ay-aht laws and policies are clear, practical, and responsive to the needs of the Nation.

Emerging Issues: The key emerging issue is ensuring that the policies advanced from Committee are reviewed by Executive Council and, where approved, implemented in a clear and consistent way. Continued work on the Economic Development Act will also remain a priority, as the Committee and working group move forward with proposed updates to better support Huu-ay-aht's economic development goals.

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.

Clean Energy Portfolio (Executive Council Portfolio Holder): In June, I continued advancing Huu-ay-aht's clean energy priorities with a focus on affordability, reliability, energy sovereignty, economic opportunity, and long-term resilience. Work continued on key clean energy projects, government and regulatory engagement, and strategic partnerships that support Huu-ay-aht's long-term clean energy goals.

Offshore Floating Wind Pilot – SeaTwirl / AKS Wind: The offshore floating wind project continued to make strong progress in June. A major update this month is that AKS Wind has sold its business to SeaTwirl, and SeaTwirl will be forming SeaTwirl Canada. This means Huu-ay-aht will now be working directly with SeaTwirl, the manufacturer and designer of the floating offshore wind technology. This is a positive step for the project and should help support clearer communication, stronger technical planning, and continued advancement of the feasibility work.

Throughout June, we continued meeting with the SeaTwirl engineering team and working to advance the feasibility study. Planning also continued for a site visit in early July, which will be an important next step in reviewing project opportunities, site conditions, and technical requirements.

Regulatory and government engagement also continued to move forward. I met with the BC Energy Regulator to discuss potential regulatory pathways and permitting requirements for the project. I also met with the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions to discuss the project and continue building provincial support. These discussions were positive, and there continues to be strong interest and support for the project.

In early June, I spoke about Huu-ay-aht's offshore wind project at the Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference. This was an important opportunity to share the project with industry leaders from across Vancouver Island and highlight Huu-ay-aht's leadership in clean energy development. I also provided Council with an update on all capital projects, including the offshore floating wind project, for discussion.

The project was also discussed with Minister Maninder Sidhu, the federal Minister of International Trade. Minister Sidhu was supportive of the project, and follow-up meetings will be arranged to continue discussing how the federal government may support the project moving forward.

Overall, the offshore floating wind project remains a key priority within the Clean Energy portfolio. Technical, regulatory, government relations, and partnership work are all continuing to move forward in a positive direction.

Anacla Government Office Solar Project: The Anacla Government Office solar project is complete and is now almost fully commissioned. This project remains an important practical achievement for Huu-ay-aht, as it demonstrates the Nation's ability to move clean energy projects from planning through to construction and implementation.

The project will help reduce operating costs, increase local clean energy generation, and provide a visible example of clean energy infrastructure within the community. It also supports Huu-ay-aht's broader goals around energy resilience, sustainability, and reducing reliance on outside energy sources where practical.

Sector Engagement, Strategic Partnerships & Multi-Nation Collaboration: June was also a strong month for clean energy engagement and relationship-building. I met with the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions, the BC Energy Regulator, Minister Maninder Sidhu, and the elected MLA George Anderson from Nanaimo to discuss Huu-ay-aht's clean energy work and the offshore floating wind project.

At the Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference, I also engaged with multiple First Nations about wind power generation, potential partnerships, and future clean energy development opportunities. There is continued interest in First Nations-led clean energy projects, and follow-up

will continue to build support and explore partnership opportunities with other Nations, business partners, and organizations.

I also met with Evolgen and Inergex this month to continue discussions around potential clean energy projects and partnership opportunities. These conversations remain important as Huu-ay-aht continues to explore opportunities that support long-term energy sovereignty, economic development, and stronger First Nations participation in the clean energy sector.

Emerging Issues: Key emerging issues include confirming the regulatory pathway for the offshore wind project, advancing the feasibility study, identifying project funding and partnership opportunities, and ensuring clean energy projects continue to support long-term benefits for Huu-ay-aht.

Climate Sustainability (Executive Council Joint Portfolio Holder): In June, I continued to support the Climate Sustainability portfolio through ongoing government relations, advocacy, and work to identify opportunities that can support Huu-ay-aht's climate sustainability, resilience, and emergency preparedness priorities.

I also want to acknowledge the late Councillor Stella Marie Peters with respect and appreciation for her contributions to this portfolio and to Huu-ay-aht.

This month, I had several positive meetings and discussions at the Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference connected to climate sustainability, clean energy, resilience, and opportunities for Huu-ay-aht's territory. I also met with the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions to discuss opportunities that may support climate sustainability work and broader resilience planning for the Nation.

A meeting has been set up for early July with Sean Flickinger to discuss opportunities to further support the climate sustainability portfolio and related emergency preparedness work. I also continue to support an application for climate resiliency training, which could help strengthen local capacity, preparedness, and long-term resilience.

I want to recognize Sean Flickinger for the excellent work he continues to do in emergency preparedness. His leadership and coordination remain important to supporting Huu-ay-aht's readiness, planning, and broader climate resilience objectives.

Emerging Issues: Key emerging issues include identifying funding and training opportunities, supporting climate resiliency planning, and continuing coordination with staff and government partners to advance Huu-ay-aht's climate sustainability priorities..

Capital Raise (Portfolio): In June, I continued advancing capital raise and partnership development work across several major Huu-ay-aht priorities, including the Framework Planning Project and the ship recycling project. This work remains focused on moving major opportunities forward in a way that supports Huu-ay-aht's long-term economic development, strengthens strategic partnerships, and protects Huu-ay-aht's lands, assets, governance, and decision-making authority.

Throughout June, there were several meetings and discussions connected to these projects, including internal team meetings, partner meetings, government engagement, and Council updates. Across all of this work, the priority remains ensuring that each project is advanced carefully, responsibly, and in the best interests of Huu-ay-aht citizens. As these major opportunities continue to move forward, we are focused on maintaining momentum while ensuring

that governance, due diligence, funding, regulatory requirements, environmental standards, and long-term Nation interests are properly considered.

Framework Planning Project: In June, the Framework Planning Project continued to move forward in a positive direction. Huu-ay-aht continued internal discussions and negotiations with the Forum team as work continues toward a Master Agreement. The project is advancing well, and good progress continues to be made on the agreement pathway and overall project structure.

This work remains focused on ensuring that the final agreement provides the best possible opportunity for Huu-ay-aht First Nations. The agreement is expected to outline how Huu-ay-aht and the Forum team will move ahead together on project development, cost sharing, governance, and future implementation. The governance structure has already been worked through, which provides a stronger foundation for continued negotiations and decision-making.

In June, I also spoke with several organizations about the Framework Planning Project at the Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference. This provided an opportunity to highlight Huu-ay-aht's long-term vision, major capital priorities, and leadership in advancing responsible economic development. I also discussed the project with Minister Maninder Sidhu, the federal Minister of International Trade, as well as the elected MLA George Anderson from Nanaimo.

I provided an update to Executive Council this month, and the project continues to be supported by Executive Council. Overall, the Framework Planning Project continues to make strong progress. Huu-ay-aht will continue working through the agreement process carefully, while staying focused on protecting the Nation's long-term interests and ensuring the project creates meaningful opportunities for Huu-ay-aht citizens.

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>)

Ship Recycling Project: In June, the ship recycling project continued to advance very well and remains one of Huu-ay-aht's strongest potential economic development opportunities. The project continues to receive strong interest and support from both the provincial and federal governments, and Huu-ay-aht continues to work with partners, advisors, and government agencies to advance the project in a responsible and strategic way.

I spoke about the ship recycling project with several organizations at the Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference in early June, which helped continue building awareness and support for the opportunity. We also continued holding weekly meetings to discuss the project, advance next steps, and work through key considerations. This includes ongoing work connected to pre-feasibility planning and potential site locations.

Huu-ay-aht has also continued discussions with several government agencies. We met with Minister Maninder Sidhu, the federal Minister of International Trade, to discuss the project, and he has expressed interest in further meetings and follow-up discussions. I also spoke with Premier David Eby about the project. This level of engagement reflects the strong interest in responsible ship recycling and the potential role Huu-ay-aht can play in advancing this opportunity in British Columbia.

The Lands Department and Economic Development Department continue to work hard to advance this project. Huu-ay-aht is also continuing to work with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth, including discussions related to the completed CPCS report. The report strongly emphasizes the opportunity for Huu-ay-aht to develop a responsible ship recycling project and highlights the broader need and opportunity for this type of facility on the west coast.

Ship recycling has significant potential to create jobs, training opportunities, economic benefits, and long-term returns for Huu-ay-aht. While ship recycling may not always appear environmentally focused at first glance, a properly designed and regulated facility can provide an important environmental solution by ensuring aging vessels are dismantled safely, responsibly, and in accordance with strong environmental standards. Huu-ay-aht would not move this project forward unless it is done properly, meets or exceeds provincial and federal standards, and protects the lands, waters, and long-term interests of the Nation.

Huu-ay-aht continues to work with the steering committee and working groups in the Alberni Valley to advance the project. At this stage, Huu-ay-aht's project continues to appear to be one of the most viable opportunities being proposed. Overall, the ship recycling project remains in a very strong position and continues to build momentum as a major economic development opportunity for Huu-ay-aht.

Emerging Issues: Key emerging issues include finalizing the Framework Planning agreement pathway, advancing ship recycling pre-feasibility work and site review, maintaining government support, and ensuring both projects continue to protect Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests.

Chair of Board of Directors of Huumiis Ventures: In June, as Chair of the Board of Directors for Huumiis Ventures, work continued with leadership, Western Forest Products, and legal counsel to support the ongoing review of the existing relationship and the terms and structure that guide the partnership. This work remains focused on protecting Huu-ay-aht's interests, supporting the long-term stability of Huumiis Ventures, and identifying opportunities to strengthen the path forward.

There was no Huumiis Ventures Board of Directors meeting held in June, as the next Board meeting is scheduled for early July. However, a short update meeting was held to review the ongoing work and confirm continued progress. Much of this work remains confidential and cannot be reported on in detail at this stage, but the process continues to move forward.

As Chair, I continue to support the work of Huumiis Ventures by reviewing and approving expenditures where required, supporting governance and oversight, and helping ensure that work with Western Forest Products continues to move forward through the appropriate process.

The broader coastal forestry sector continues to face ongoing challenges, and those conditions continue to affect the operating environment for Huumiis Ventures. These challenges are consistent with the broader pressures being experienced across coastal forestry, including market, operational, and sector-wide issues.

Overall, the work continues to progress. Huumiis Ventures remains focused on working through the appropriate process with legal counsel and partners, while continuing to protect Huu-ay-aht's interests and support the long-term success of the organization.

Emerging Issues: Key emerging issues include preparing for the early July Board meeting, continuing the review process, supporting the ongoing relationship with Western Forest Products, monitoring coastal forestry challenges, and protecting Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests.

Clean Energy BC (CEBC), Acting Interim Executive Director: In June, I continued serving as Acting Interim Executive Director for Clean Energy BC while also maintaining my responsibilities with Huu-ay-aht. This arrangement was approved by Huu-ay-aht Executive Council, and I continue to manage my time carefully between my HFN responsibilities and the interim leadership role at Clean Energy BC.

Executive Council has also approved me to continue supporting Clean Energy BC as Acting Interim Executive Director for an additional three months, as the organization is experiencing some challenges with its recruitment process. This means I may continue in the acting role until September, although the hope is that Clean Energy BC is able to complete its recruitment process sooner.

Overall, the organization continues to move forward well. My focus remains on supporting administration, overseeing organizational operations, providing leadership to staff, and ensuring continuity during the ongoing transition period. This includes supporting internal decision-making, helping guide staff, maintaining organizational stability, and ensuring Clean Energy BC continues to meet its responsibilities during this period.

In June, I continued supporting a variety of ongoing Clean Energy BC projects and workstreams. This included continued engagement with government officials, industry members, and partners across the clean energy sector. I also continued supporting the organization's seven committees and helping ensure that committee work, advocacy priorities, and sector engagement continue to move forward.

There are no major Clean Energy BC events scheduled until UBCM, although some smaller government and sector engagements will continue before then. The organization remains active and well-positioned, with work continuing across government relations, policy advocacy, member engagement, committee support, and organizational administration.

This role continues to provide value to Huu-ay-aht by keeping the Nation connected to provincial clean energy discussions, government relations, regulatory developments, and sector opportunities. It also supports stronger relationships with industry, government, regulators, and other First Nations as clean energy development, Indigenous ownership, and energy sovereignty continue to become increasingly important across British Columbia.

Government Relations Committee: In June, Clean Energy BC's government relations work continued to focus on the policy, regulatory, procurement, and market conditions needed to support clean energy development in British Columbia. Key areas of focus included continued engagement on BC Hydro procurement, transmission and interconnection planning, Indigenous participation, affordability, economic development, and the broader role of clean electricity in supporting provincial growth.

A major area of discussion in June was the continued advancement of new clean energy procurement in British Columbia, including the Province and BC Hydro's work to add new renewable electricity supply and support First Nations equity ownership in clean energy projects. This remains directly relevant to Huu-ay-aht as the Nation continues to advance its own clean energy priorities, including offshore wind, solar, storage, interconnection, and broader regional energy planning.

Participation in the Government Relations Committee continues to provide value to Huu-ay-aht by keeping the Nation connected to emerging policy changes, government priorities, procurement opportunities, and advocacy efforts that may support Nation-led clean energy development. This

work also supports stronger relationships with government, industry, regulators, and other First Nations as clean energy development continues to be a major priority across British Columbia.

Permitting & Regulatory Committee: In June, Clean Energy BC's permitting and regulatory work continued to focus on the practical barriers affecting clean energy project delivery across British Columbia. This included continued attention to permitting timelines, regulatory clarity, inter-agency coordination, First Nations consultation, environmental requirements, and implementation of more efficient processes for renewable energy projects.

A key area of focus was the continued implementation of the new renewable energy regulatory framework through the BC Energy Regulator. This includes the new requirements and permitting pathway for high-output wind and solar projects, which are intended to support more coordinated regulatory oversight while maintaining requirements related to First Nations rights and interests, environmental protection, public safety, emergency management, operations, restoration, and project shutdown.

This work continues to provide useful insight for Huu-ay-aht, particularly as the Nation advances clean energy projects that may involve provincial permitting, environmental review, fisheries considerations, interconnection, and coordination between multiple regulators and government agencies. As Huu-ay-aht's clean energy projects continue to develop, it will be important to remain engaged in these sector-wide conversations and ensure that First Nations perspectives are reflected in future regulatory and permitting reforms.

<https://cleanenergybc.org/>

<https://cleanenergybc.org/policy-and-regulation/>

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

Week one (June 1st to 5th):

- Ship recycling Steering Committee meeting
- Meeting w/Chief Councilor John Jack
- Economic Development Act Meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Lands director
- Huumiis Meeting
- Indigenous Opportunities conference
 - Wed, Thurs, Fri, spoke about clean energy
- SeaTwirl Floating Wind Project meeting
- Ship recycling team meeting
- Meeting with HGB and UVic

Week two (June 8th to 12th):

- Meeting With BC Energy Regulator
- HFN FramePoint bi-weekly meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Brad Johnson
- Meeting with Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions
- Ship recycling team meeting
- Meeting with Innergex

Week three (June 15th to 19th):

- Law and Policy Meeting
- Huumiis Meeting
- Framework team meeting
- Ship recycling team meeting

- Bi-weekly meeting with Lands director
- Framework project Partner meeting
- BC business House engagement Vancouver
- SeaTwirl Floating Wind Project meeting
- Major Projects discussion
- Iskum Investments meeting
- Ship recycling team meeting

Week four (June 22nd to 30th):

- National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Economic Development Officer Bi-weekly meeting
- Swearing in Ceremony for Elected councilor Nicole Macomson
- Committee of the Whole meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Edward Johnson
- Meeting with Evolugen
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Brad Johnson
- Executive Council meeting
- Ship recycling team meeting
- Meeting with Innergex
- Meeting with Evolugen
- Framework project meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Lands director

Council Member Nicole Malcomson Report – June 2026

Overview

- Participated in the Swearing-In Ceremony at the Huu-ay-aht Anacla Government Office on June 23, 2026.
- Attended my first Council meeting on June 25, 2026.
- Completed my final day with BCEHS and officially began my leave of absence on July 1, 2026.
- Scheduled introductory meetings with the Technology Lead, Director of Community Services, and Coral Johnson.
- Established bi-weekly bilateral meetings with Chief Councillor John Jack.
- Participated in a Community Safety Plan check-in meeting in preparation for the August 6–7, 2026 community visit.
- Huu-ay-aht Graduation Day is scheduled for August 13, 2026, followed by Huu-ay-aht Days from August 14–16, 2026.
- Attended an FNHA Governance Structure presentation with Tliniihak Johnson and Milly Price.

Community Engagement utilization and BCEHS

Looking ahead to Huu-ay-aht days, I planted a seed with some BCEHS local contacts, including the regional Manager, Director, Youth Pathways Manager and the Talent Acquisition rep, one idea would be to offer **Stop the Bleed, CPR, and AED training** for Huu-ay-aht community members. Given that Huu-ay-aht Days brings together citizens and families from many communities, this could provide a valuable opportunity to build lifesaving skills while also increasing awareness of emergency preparedness.

The concept could be organized as an information booth or short presentation sharing BCEHS employment pathways, career opportunities, and recruitment initiatives across British Columbia. This may be of particular interest to youth and community members exploring future career options.

The BCEHS colleagues I'd mentioned this to, I'd trust to be respectful, conscientious, and productive contributors of the event if we were to move ahead with the piece of planning. I would also like to inquire whether there's capacity for some of the individuals to support first aid coverage during the event days.

This idea remains in the early stages of exploration. I wanted to bring it forward for discussion while we await the return of the event coordinator and further information regarding the Huu-ay-aht Days schedule and programming. Initial conversations have been positive, and Coral appeared open to exploring the concept further.

Upcoming FNHA Engagement

On July 6, 2026, I will attend the first FNHA Nuuchah-nulth luncheon focused on the evolving role of the First Nations Health Council (FNHC). This meeting will provide an opportunity to expand my understanding, strengthen our engagement, build relationships and continue those partnerships with our neighbouring communities. I met the wonderful Tliniihak Johnson over Zoom on July 3rd for an overview of this governance structure and spent the afternoon learning more about HFN's

role at this table.

Transition into Council and Community Concerns Tracking

My first week has focused on transitioning back into an office and hybrid work environment at PAGO. Despite my grievances with HWY4, It's been really appreciated to be a part of the HFN environment again. During this time, I have met with staff, the Executive Director, administrative assistants, and clerks to better understand operations and establish working relationships.

To support my Council responsibilities, I have developed a tracking system for community concerns, comments and inquiries that I've heard or notice. This process will assist in identifying recurring themes, emerging issues and matters that may require future Council discussion and will be happy to share more at a later date.

Emerging Topic: Artificial Intelligence and Cultural Sensitivity

One concern that has emerged worth mentioning today, involves the use of AI and its potential impacts on cultural integrity and language preservation.

This discussion arose during a Community Safety Plan check-in meeting, where AI-generated imagery was used within a presentation. Additional concerns were raised when Hinyatinis, our language coordinator was asked to assist with naming a project that had incorporated AI-generated content and had some names flagged to be generated by AI use. These experiences prompted broader conversations regarding the appropriate use of AI within Huu-ay-aht workplaces and projects and quite frankly, bothers and discourages the use of our Communications teams, Language Coordinator and left a bad taste in my mouth when seeing it first-hand on the presentations.

Area of concern:

- The use of AI generated artwork intended to represent Indigenous HFN culture.
- The use of AI tools to create posters or visual representations incorporating Indigenous language and cultural elements, can be seen as 'pan-Indigenizing'
- The use of AI to generate Indigenous language translations or naming conventions without appropriate cultural and linguistic oversight or consideration of approved words or that they're being given to AI language models to interrupt.
- The use of AI notetaking and content generation tools where cultural context and accuracy may be lost or misrepresented or repurposed without the proper oversight from staff inputting it or not excluding it from being inputted.

Given the cultural, linguistic sensitivity and intellectual property considerations involved and mentioned to me, I believe this topic warrants discussion by Council ahead of overuse of this tool. Perhaps revisiting our Policy and shared expectations and to give guidance around responsible AI use may help ensure that the very technology supports rather than undermines Huu-ay-aht values, language revitalization efforts and cultural protocols.

Councillor Brad Johnson Executive Council Report – June 2026

Portfolios:

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

Fisheries: The Huu-ay-aht team continues to negotiate a terminal fishery for Sugsaw chum with DFO. These meetings take place bi-weekly with the hope of completing all the work necessary before the end of September. If the run size of chum is abundant, we will have an economic fishery this fall for our citizens to take part in.

MeToo negotiations have continued with DFO. We are still waiting for a response from the DFO Minister on our ask from our previous meetings in Ottawa. It looks like the ICEFP Summer AABM chinook fishery will start mid-August. This will be an offshore fishery similar to the first negotiated incremental fishery last year. We have asked for an earlier start date and dual fishing rights but are yet to hear if our request will be granted. There is a possibility of an in-person meeting with the DFO minister in August. The Maa-Nulth Treaty society is working on dates for that to happen.

Our Fisheries team was busy this month with Food Fish distributions to major areas where citizens reside. Citizens were given 6 fresh whole sockeye gutted and gilled. Thanks to the staff and fishery manager for all their efforts in making this happen. This program gets better every year with efficiency.

DFO science will be doing surveys on Sealions at Seabird Rocks, which is in our territory just outside of Pachena Bay. These surveys are ongoing yearly and will take place between August and September 2026. These requests come in through the Maa-Nulth fisheries committee and approval was granted.

Wildlife: No Wildlife Committee meetings happened this month. These meetings take place bimonthly. Next meeting will be held in July.

Treaty Implementation: On June 4th, 2026, I attended the Premier's Forum with the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations. This event was hosted by the Yuulu?il?ath Government in Ucluelet BC. Premier David Eby and Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Spencer Chandra Herbert met with treaty leaders to advance the shared priorities framework. The primary purpose of this meeting is for government-to-government discussions to enhance modern treaty implementation, secure ongoing fiscal arrangements and reinforce treaty rights at the provincial level. Overall, the meeting was good. There were a lot of Ministers/ Deputy Ministers and staff this year and I appreciated the level of effort the province brought for this important meeting.

Parks Canada: On June 15th, 2026, we received formal notice that for the 2026-2027 fiscal year Parks Canada will contribute up to a maximum of \$250K in support of our West Coast Trail Guardian Program.

NMCAR Parks Canada has said again that they do not have funding secured yet; in fact, they believe there will be a reduction in funding. It is unknown at this time if this work will continue past September 2026. Nations still have one more year in funding remaining.

HR Workplace and Wellness: I had roughly 5 meetings this month regarding HR matters about employees or Committee members. Most of these topics are very sensitive/confidential and as such, I am unable share. Let it be known that every case may be different in matter but all are treated fairly.

Special Project the Bamfield Road: The road remains in good condition with the maintenance crews solving road repair issues when needed. The weather at this time of year is starting to improve so when potholes occur, they will be fixed more frequently in a timely manner. At this time of year, traffic is increasing as campers start heading to Anacla / Bamfield region so please drive with caution.

Overall, 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 topics I'm referring to. We were still in "Pens Down" for most of this month, hence the shorter report. I would like to congratulate Nicole Malcomson for winning the by-election and becoming a member of Executive Council for our nation. I have confidence she will do great work for our nation moving forward.