Huu-ay-aht Citizen Programs and Services

huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

masčim & maatmaas
(People & Houses)

Community & Citizens Services

The Community Services Department provides referrals and supports to Huu-ay-aht citizens and their families in health matters, education journeys, crisis grants, and other matters. Services are offered to all Huu-ay-aht Citizens.

HEALTH SERVICES

- **Prescriptions:** support provided for medication that is not covered under Blue Cross (FNHA) or third-party coverage
- **Dental:** financial support for services not covered by Blue Cross or high-cost dental work
- **Alternative Health:** financial support for health services that are not covered under Blue Cross (chiropractor, physiotherapy, massage, etc.)
- **Health Prevention and Promotion:** programs and workshops on health-related topics to bring awareness of health
- **Mental Health:** Counsellors, clinical counsellor and outreach providing services one-on-one or group sessions; provide support for treatment, detox and aftercare programs
- **Culture:** providing traditional medicines, holistic healing, ceremonies, language, song and dances
- **Program Connections:** coordinates and connects Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Health Care Services, which includes Helicopters with Boarders to bring services and specialists to the community

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Youth Activities: Cultural, recreational, and leadership activities for children and youth, including after-school and weekend programming in Anacla, field trips, campouts, Tlupitch Games, and government conferences

EDUCATION

- Tuition supports for training, adult basic education, university bridging, and post-secondary programming, for full time and part time students
- Student Living allowance
- Tutor supports (in person and virtual) for school age and post-secondary students
- School Supply allowance for K-12 students
- Sponsorship supports for student activities
- Education, training and employment supports and advising

OTHER SUPPORTS

- **Crisis Grants:** a one-time funding that citizens can access yearly up to $2,000.
- **Funerals:** financial support of $7,500 per citizen
- **Medical Travel:** financial support for travelling to your medical appointments

Contact Community & Citizen Services at 250-723-0100

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Child & Family Wellness

The after-hours phone is for Child Protection matters and intimate partner violence only. It operates from 4 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Monday to Friday, and 24 hours a day on Saturday, Sunday, all statutory holidays, and office closures.

Please call the after-hours phone at 250-731-6999 and leave a detailed voicemail, and one of our support workers will get in touch with you to provide support.

SUPPORTS

- **Support for Intimate Partner Violence:** Offering resources and safety planning for those affected by intimate partner violence.
- **Life Skills Support:** Helping individuals build everyday skills like budgeting, grocery shopping, and navigating paperwork.
- **Parenting Support:** Offering tools, guidance, and encouragement to parents and caregivers.
- **Discretionary Emergency Funding:** Providing financial support in urgent situations to help families stay safe and stable.
- **Connections to Other Services:** Helping families access additional supports and service providers as needed.

SUPPORTS

- **Emotional and Social Support:** Helping individuals and families cope with challenges through one-on-one and group support.
- **Advocacy in Child Protection Matters:** Standing alongside Huu-ay-aht families involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in, child protection matters, ensuring their rights and voices are heard.
- **Family Group Conferencing:** Bringing together families, traditional house groups, and support networks to develop culturally informed plans for children and families.
- **Culture Plans for Children in Care:** Ensuring that children and youth who are in care remain connected to their Huu-ay-aht roots, families, and cultural practices.
- **Transitional Support:** Assisting families and youth with major life changes, such as aging out of care or moving between communities.
- **Pregnancy and Post-Natal Support:** Providing guidance and care for new and expecting parents.

Contact Child & Family Wellness at 250-736-5066

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Child & Family Wellness

Paawats provides childcare services to children needing preschool and daycare during the work days. These services are available to all citizens and non-citizens' families. If you would like more information, please contact either Anacla or Port Alberni Paawats.

PAAWATS DAYCARE ACTIVITIES

- Learning through free play and creating an inclusive and diverse environment
- Exploring and leaning gross motors well engaging in outdoor activities
- Learning Social and emotional development as the children grow with others
- Engaging and Listening skills in Circle time
- Learning communication and language skills including Huu-ay-aht through Moe the Mouse Program, singing and drumming
- Learning in art activities with engaging and exploring the child's fine motor skills

PROGRAM AVAILABILITY

Both Anacla and Port Alberni Paawats are open to all children, and full-time and part-time spots are available

OPERATIONAL HOURS

Both Anacla and Port Alberni Paawats are open to all children, and, full-time and part-time spots are available

CONTACT

Anacla Paawats at 250-728-3083

Port Alberni Paawats at 250-723-0898

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ʔumʔiiqsu Centre

In the 2017 Huu-ay-aht First Nations Social Services Project Report ", Safe, Healthy, and Connected: Bringing Huu-ay-aht Children Home," Recommendation 26 highlights the establishment of a Mother Centre, modelled after the Vancouver Aboriginal Mother Centre. Centred around the Huu-ay-aht Sacred Principles, the ʔumʔiiqsu Centre is a unique and culturally centred program designed to keep families together, protect mothers and children from gender-based and intimate partner violence, and prevent Huu-ay-aht and other Nuu-chah-nulth children and youth from going into foster care, and to ultimately strengthen families.

The Childcare Centre is an integral part of the services offered at ʔumʔiiqsu Centre, providing high-quality early childhood education experiences for children and their mothers. We can accommodate eight children aged newborn to 3 years old, and 16 children aged 3 to 5 years old. Our philosophy emphasizes respect, care, and interconnectedness, fostering a nurturing environment rooted in indigenous principles of wisdom and reconciliation, ensuring our children grow up safe, healthy, and connected.

APPLICATIONS

The ʔumʔiiqsu Centre in Port Alberni offers housing for women (including self-identifying, transgender, and Two-Spirit women) and their children facing gender-based violence or homelessness.

Applications can be found on our website or in-person at the Centre.

Contact ʔumʔiiqsu Centre at 250-736-5066

SERVICES

- **Supportive Housing:** Provides safe, 24/7 housing for up to twelve mothers and their children. Families have private bedrooms and bathrooms and share kitchens, living areas, playrooms, and laundry facilities to foster community. Beyond shelter, the program supports stability and growth through life skills training, parenting groups, cultural teachings, and personalized care plans. Staff are always on-site to offer guidance and help in emergencies, ensuring that mothers and children can heal and work towards independence in a supportive environment.
- **Transitional Housing:** Four independent apartments will be available for mothers and children who are ready to transition from the Supportive Housing Program.
- **ʔumʔiiqsu Childcare Centre:** Provides childcare spaces for children ages birth to 5-years old who are residing at ʔumʔiiqsu Centre.

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Infrastructure & Capital Projects

The Infrastructure & Capital Projects department is responsible for building and maintaining physical structures for a safe, healthy, and connected hahuuɬi.

INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDES

- Drinking water
- Internet
- Wastewater treatment plant
- Maintenance of Huu-ay-aht owned buildings (Government Offices, Paawats Daycares, Soaring Eagle, Fitness Centre, etc.)
- General cleaning and maintenance of Anacla
- Support events planning
- Development and Building permits for personal projects locally within Anacla
- Support Maʔas taqimɬ Housing Authority with maintenance and construction services

CAPITAL PROJECTS INCLUDE

- Recreation Facilities
- Upper Anacla Playing Field (Completed)
- Cultural and Visitor Information Centre *(Opening Spring 2027)*
- Water Treatment Upgrade *(Expected completion 2028)*
- *Bamfield Road Centerline (Completed)*

PROGRAMS

- Elder's firewood delivery service
- Garbage pickup
- Homes for Citizens *(Applications open)*

Contact Infrastructure & Capital Projects at 250-723-0100

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Maʔas taqimɬ Housing Society

Huu-ay-aht Rental Housing is administered by the Huu-ay-aht Housing Authority, which operates under the maʔas taqimɬ (Ma-as ta-kimlth) Housing Society. The Housing Authority acts as the agent for the landlord, Huu-ay-aht First Nations, and oversees rental housing services for Huu-ay-aht citizens.

WHAT DOES THE HOUSING MANAGER DO?

- Manages the day-to-day operations of the Housing Society.
- Implements Board policies and decisions.
- Supervises staff, contractors, and service providers.
- Safeguards financial resources and administers approved budgets.
- Prepares reports, budgets, and recommendations for the Board.
- Coordinates Board meetings, notices, agendas, and records.
- Ensures compliance with operational, procurement, and tenancy requirements.

Contact the Housing Manager at manager@hfnha.org or 1-866-307-0356 Ext. 101

APPLYING FOR RENTALS

To apply for rental housing, please contact or visit the Housing Office.

There is no application deadline, and Huu-ay-aht citizens may apply for rental housing opportunities as units become available and are advertised. Applications will be kept on file for up to one year from the date they are received.

Application forms are also available on the Huu-ay-aht website and may be submitted electronically for consideration.

REQUESTING MAINTANENCE

Tenants may submit maintenance requests online or by completing a maintenance request form available through the Huu-ay-aht website or at the Housing Office.

All tenants are encouraged to report maintenance concerns promptly to ensure timely assessment and resolution of repair needs.

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Communications

Works collaboratively to ensure communications between Huu-ay-aht, its citizens, various levels of government, and the public, as well as, internal communications between Huu-ay-aht departments and administration

WHAT DOES COMMUNICATIONS DO?

- Manage Huu-ay-aht's website, app, and social media
- Publish the Uyaqḥmis Newsletter quarterly
- Publish Anacla Newsletter bi-weekly
- Create, format, edit reports/plans and ensures they align with Huu-ay-aht branding
- Support with events planning (People's Assembly, Community Engagements, HFN Days, etc.)
- Support with the development of funeral pamphlets
- Press releases, articles, and media contact
- Surveys
- Support Huu-ay-aht departments with communication needs

UYAQḤMIS NEWSLETTER

A newsletter that is distributed to all Huu-ay-aht Citizens. This newsletter is complied of citizen stories, government updates, research committee readings and news.

WEBSITE CITIZEN PORTAL

Register your account at www.huuayaht.org to receive exclusive citizen only information.

ANACLA NEWSLETTER

The Anacla Newsletter is a bi-weekly newsletter distributed every other Friday, and is for citizens living in Anacla. This newsletter shares important information of what is happening in community such as doctors in community, events, alerts, services and programs, etc.

DOWNLOAD THE HUU-AY-AHT APP NOW!

1. Visit your app store of choice and search: "Huu-ay-aht First Nations"
2. Register by filling out your information and check your email to verify your account.
3. Get the latest news, events, jobs, and more right at your fingertips!

Contact Communications at 250-723-0100
or communications@huuayaht.org

masčim & maatmaas
(People & Houses)

Security & Emergency Services

Responsible for creating and maintaining the community's safety and resiliency strategy towards human and non-human threats and hazards. The emergency program is predominantly climate motivated and aligned with common goals such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Accomplishing these goals is a long-term process that requires buy-in at all levels. All departments and staff have some kind of role in the Emergency Program.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Emergency Planning:** Develops and maintains emergency plans, hazard response strategies, and evacuation protocols.
- **Training & Exercises:** Organizes training and emergency exercises to build response capacity and ICS readiness.
- **The Emergency Operations Center (EOC):** When a crisis occurs, the Emergency Program often manages or supports the EOC. The EOC is a central hub where authorities coordinate resources, information, and personnel.
- **Resource Management:** Maintains emergency equipment and mutual aid agreements.
- **Public Education:** Promotes emergency preparedness through community outreach and education.
- **Funding & Budgeting:** Secures funding for mitigation projects and manages the program budget.

WITWAAK

Witwaak is Huu-ay-aht First Nations' (HFN) community-based security team, providing daily patrols, supporting community events, promoting public safety, and helping implement HFN policies. The team works with community members, government, and external agencies to address safety concerns, connect issues to the appropriate authorities, and collaborate with the RCMP to enhance community safety.

They respond, report, and record incidents in Anacla. They can be reached at 250-720-5275. If it is an emergency, please dial 911, then notify Witwaak.

Contact Security & Emergency Services at 250-728-3414

Ḥahuułi
Hišukma ćawak
(Integrated Lands & Resources)

Lands & Natural Resources

The Lands and Natural Resources department is responsible for lands and natural resources and meticulously manages and conserves precious natural assets such as forests, water, and wildlife.

HARVESTING

As a Treaty Nation, we are entitled to harvest fish, wildlife, and plant resources from Huu-ay-aht's entire traditional territory. Citizens require a Harvest Card issued by the Nation to access Treaty Rights (plant resources in the Park Reserve, and seafood and wildlifeanywhere). All wildlife and seafood harvest must be reported. This helps us manage our resources for everyone's benefit. Harvest cards are valid for five years.

Applications are available online and at both the Anacla and Port Alberni offices.

FOOD FISH

The Huu-ay-aht First Nation Government contracts fishersto catch Salmonand Halibut for distribution at set locations around VancouverIsland and the Lower Mainland (Anacla, Port Alberni, Parksville, Nanaimo, Courtenay, Victoria, and Vancouver).

The goals of our Food Fish Program are to provide citizenswith a selection of healthy wild food from our traditional territory and to help achieve our Treaty Fish Allocations. Lists are created from the official Huu-ay-aht Citizenship list, so it essential that people keep the office up to date if they have a change of addressor phone number.

Contact Lands & Natural Resources at 250-728-3414

Ḥahuułi
Hišukma ćawak
(Integrated Lands & Resources)

Lands & Natural Resources

PERMITTING

The Lands and Natural Resources Department issues various types of permits for citizens and non-citizens. These permits help the Nation to manage our shared resources. The most common permits issued are:

- Firewood Permits to collectfirewood for personal use.
- Camping Permits
- Citizen Camping Permits for Pachena Bay Citizen Sites
- Heritage Investigation Permits
- Temporary Use Permits for short term/harvesting purposes

Citizens are asked to acquirefree camping permits for the Pachena Bay Citizen Sites and our wilderness campsites. The permit helps us care for our recreational areas and avoid double-booking.

To request a permit, please email permits@huuayaht.org or call 250-728-3414

LAND LEASE & TEMPORARY USE

The Lands and Natural Resources Department oversees the permitting and leasing of Treaty Settlement Lands. There are two main paths to apply for interest in Huu-ay-aht lands:

- **Temporary Interest Permit:** For short-term use of land, up to six months. This may include activities such as access routes, temporary work areas, resource use, or short-term occupancy.
- **Lease:** For longer-term use of land, such as a home, business, tourism operation, community facility, or other approved activity.

Anyone interested in using Huu-ay-aht lands must apply through the Lands and Natural Resources Department. Each application is reviewed to make sure the proposed use is a good fit for the land, the environment, and the interests of Huu-ay-aht citizens

ʔiihmisuk
(To Treasure)

Economic Development

One of the Economic Development missions is to assist in building the capacity of Huu-ay-aht citizens to be successful entrepreneurs, and to provide Huu-ay-aht citizens with business development and entrepreneurship information concerning business planning and financing strategies for businesses to be developed, owned, or operated by Huu-ay-aht citizens.

HUU-AY-AHT CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL FUNDING

One of the goals of the Huu-ay-aht First Nation's Four-year Community Economic Development Plan is to support citizen entrepreneurship. The Huu-ay-aht Executive Council has allocated resources to the Citizen Entrepreneurial Fund to assist Huu-ay-aht Citizens to build a strong business. The funds are specific to the Huu-ay-aht Citizen acquiring a loan from Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation (NEDC) and the funding would be used as equity for the loan.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

All Huu-ay-aht Citizens

HOW OFTEN CAN YOU APPLY?

This is a one-time funding arrangement.

HOW CAN A CITIZEN APPLY?

Even through this is Huu-ay-aht funds, applicants must apply through NEDC. For an application, please contact the Economic Development department.

Contact Economic Development at 250-723-0100

WHAT IS NEEDED?

Huu-ay-aht Citizens who are eager to start their own business will apply to NEDC. When a loan is approved, a letter of offer from NEDC is given to the applicant. At that time, NEDC will contact the Huu-ay-aht Government Office and notify them of the approved loan. Payment will be sent to NEDC from the Huu-ay-aht Government Office.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

To assist with grant/loan acquisition from NEDC by contributing funds to satisfy equity requirements.

HUU-AY-AHT CITIZENS ENTREPRENEURIAL FUNDING EQUITY CONTRIBUTION:

Huu-ay-aht will contribute a maximum of $5,000.00 per entrepreneurer to satisfy NEDC's equity requirement.

Ḥaw̓iɬ patuk Huu-ay-aht
(Huu-ay-aht Government)

Government Law & Treaty Implementation

The Huu-ay-aht Law & Treaty Implementation department is responsible for the administration of Huu-ay-aht elections, management of freedom of information requests, records management, and the drafting and filing of motions for the executive council. It also oversees IRA and citizenship registration, provides advice and support regarding Huu-ay-aht law, and offers guidance to committees on administration and legislative responsibilities. Additionally, the department supports the Ḥaw̓iiḥ Council and fulfills the powers, duties, and functions of the Law Clerk as outlined in Huu-ay-aht legislation.

LAW DEPARTMENT AVAILABLE SUPPORTS:

- Reviewing and assisting with citizenship applications, registration, and status card applications. We ensure that any information citizens provide is changed in the Citizenship database
- We work with the Communications Department to keep information updated for all Executive Council Meetings, Legislation, People's Assembly, and Public Notices for citizens, etc.
- We keep accurate records of proceedings for all Executive Council, Ḥaw̓iiḥ Council, Committees, People's Assembly, and Legislation Meetings
- We ensure that the public registry is up to date for citizens to be able to access and review any public documents that are presented to Executive Council
- We ensure that all departments and government officials are abiding by Huu-ay-aht Law
- We hold all contracts, non-disclosure agreements with various citizens and external entities Assist citizens with steps they need to take when they receive an Exclusion Order
- We ensure that Huu-ay-aht is taking advantage of all the Maa-nulth side agreements and implementing new laws to better assist the Nation

HUU-AY-AHT TREATY TEAM

With the foundation of the Sacred Principles of Huu-ay-aht First Nations, the Treaty teams' purpose is to help support implementation, community education, and guidance for the Executive Council in regard to the Maa-nulth Treaty Final Agreement.

Ḥaw̓iɬ patuk Huu-ay-aht (Huu-ay-aht Government)

Government Law & Treaty Implementation

CITIZENS WILL EXPERIENCE

- Knowledge building on Huu-ay-aht governance and laws
- Accountability measures from the Executive Council, Ḥaw̓iiḥ Council and leadership
- Opportunities for Citizens to engage as knowledge transfer increases
- Social and economic benefits through policy development
- Support for the language and culture weaved into all aspects of the work

For Treaty & Citizenship Enrolment applications please Contact the Government Law & Implementation Department.

The team is committed and pledges to serve the Huu-ay-aht people to the highest standards by law. Keeping the sacred principles in mind, ʔiisaak (Utmost Respect), ʔuʔaaɬuk (Taking Care of), and Hišukma c̓awak (Everything is Connected) at the forefront, the team ensures Huu-ay-aht is taking advantage of all opportunities. The focus is to ensure we benefit from the Maa-nulth governance table and working group agreements by implementing new laws to better assist the nation in social, economic, cultural and governance needs. The Huu-ay-aht directly benefits citizens with supporting a robust law-making mechanism to allow for citizen participation in the process of engagement. Further to this, development opportunities for participation on a larger scale with the citizens in mind, will support future policy development.

As we have new team members join and we build leadership capacity to fulfill the large amounts of work, citizens will begin to see positive improvements in the community for the ḥahuuɬi (traditional territory) through direct knowledge sharing and transfer.

Contact Law & Implementation at 250-723-0100

Finance

The Finance Department is responsible for the effective management and safeguarding of Huu-ay-aht First Nations' financial assets. This includes maintaining accurate financial records, preparing financial statements and reports, and overseeing day-to-day financial operations such as accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and general ledger transactions. In addition to operational responsibilities, the department leads financial planning, budgeting, financial policy review, annual audit and any other financial analysis needed to support informed decision-making and ensure the organization's long-term financial sustainability. The department currently has four positions in the Port Alberni Government Office and one in the Anacla Government Office.

SERVICES

- **Direct Deposit:** After submitting the Direct Deposit form and receipts, the direct deposit is issued every Wednesday. The cut-off for Direct deposit submissions is every Tuesday at noon.
- **Cheque Payments:** Cheque requisitions are processed every Tuesday and Thursday for reimbursements. Requisitions must be in by noon on a Tuesday. It will be ready approximately a week to two weeks after the correct forms and receipts are submitted to the Finance Department.
- **Finding Forms:** Direct Deposit forms can be found on our website, www.huuayaht.org, under citizen forms. If you need assistance or would like a physical copy, visit the Anacla or Port Alberni Office and request one to be printed.
- **Minor Trust:** When a Citizen turns 19, a Finance team member contacts them to release their trust funds, including any earned interest, which are paid within 90 days of their birthday once the Receipt and Release form is completed.

For forms, please visit our website or Huu-ay-aht Government Offices.

Contact Finance at 250-723-0100

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ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Port Alberni Government Office
4644 Adelaide St.
Port Alberni, BC, V9Y 4N4

Anacla Government Office
170 Nookemus Rd.
Anacla, BC, V0R 1B0

www.huuayaht.org