huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Executive Council Report
July 2026

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Chief-Councillor John Jack Report – July 2026

Description of General Duties

The following section is a description of my monthly meeting itinerary. It mostly describes the meetings and events that are pertinent to the duties of Chief-Councillor and a Member of Council with various files in their portfolio. There may be some details added into the description for better understanding of day-to-day, but simpler tasks like reading materials, office duties and catching up on constant emails tend to be described as they are without much detail.

Week One

July began in the middle of the week with a Statutory Holiday. The following day was a Thursday with some meetings online regarding forestry and bilateral meetings with both the Executive Director and newly-elected Member of Council, Nicole Malcomson. The following day was front-loaded with meetings back-to-back: preparation meeting for a BC government meeting the next week, an interview about the increasing deaths of whales on the coast, a meeting of the HFN Taxation Authority, a monthly check-in with Global Affairs Canada, and another preparatory meeting for a future meeting.

Week Two

Monday the 6th started with a check-in meeting with Deputy Chief-Councillor Edward Johnson, then turned to a check-in with our federal government relations firm, Blue Sky. The afternoon had an important working group meeting between HFN and HGB representatives and finished off with a meeting to review the agenda and materials for the upcoming Executive Council meeting. Tuesday the 7th was an event: the FIFA World Cup Watch Party hosted at the House of Huu-ay-aht. It went quite well! We had a good number of attendees from both Huu-ay-aht and Bamfield there. Wednesday the 8th had a pre-meeting to get ready for a meeting between HFN and its forestry partner, and then I met with proponents of an aquaculture opportunity for HFN to consider. In the afternoon, I attended an All-Chiefs Hazard call with BC's Emergency Management and Climate Resilience Ministry, and then attended a meeting with Minister Brittny Anderson at the ACRD offices to discuss regional considerations and concerns. Thursday the 9th was our Executive Council meeting, but I attended a DRIPA-related meeting with the Province in the morning first off – thanks to Edward for chairing the meeting while I attended to this important intergovernmental work. The state of indigenous interests in BC is devolving due to anti-indigenous sentiment riled up by political opportunists. DRIPA, an act respecting the UN Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People adopted by BC, is under attack as a part of a concerted effort to push and roll back general indigenous interests across western BC. Despite its flaws and oversights, it is in the interest of HFN and treaty nations to work with the current BC government to be seen working on a solution amenable to everyone, not just those behind the anti-indigenous campaign. That work continued with a direct meeting between the Alliance of Modern Treaty Nations, including us, and the co-Chairs of the DRIPA Working Group on Friday the 10th. After that, I was included on the first of a pair of interviews regarding HFN Tribunal appointments of the Vice Chair and potentially Chair. I later did an interview with CBC's Emily Fagan regarding the state of the Bamfield Road and the need for an alternative route connecting the Alberni Valley and the rest of the West Coast to the Island that is in addition to Highway 4. This interview was very timely given the meetings that would occur next week. The week ended with an online check-in between HFN and the Ministry of Forests.

Week Three

Monday the 13th started with one of the meetings we prepared for the previous week: a meeting with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth. Then, an in-person working group meeting between HFN and HGB. The day then moved to an in-person meeting with BC Transportation Minister Farnworth to discuss the impact of road closures on Huu-ay-aht, the Alberni Valley and the Regional District as a whole. The end of the meeting was an interview with another candidate for the HFN Tribunal. Tuesday the 14th, I had a quick meeting with the Economic Development Officer and then turned to travel to Vancouver for media training with our Provincial government relations firm, and then two days of intensive working group activity on DRIPA with representatives from other indigenous governments and the Province of BC. Those working group meetings took place at the Cabinet offices at Canada Place in downtown Vancouver and were conducted on Wednesday the 15th and Thursday the 16th. Friday finished off with internal meetings on economic development related items, and then a regional district meeting with business leaders from Coulson Aviation in the Alberni Valley.

Week Four

This was the beginning of the first leg of my annual leave.

Week Five

This was the last half of the first leg of my annual leave.

Portfolio Related Work

Economic Development – Progress Report and Emerging Issues

Meetings were convened to bring together HFN administration and HGB management with a third party facilitator to develop ways to better work together. These meetings continue throughout July and will likely continue into August. The topics of discussion include overall approach to governance, understanding of requirements, and a deeper focus on what hasn't worked and what should be done to improve communication, responsiveness and overall cooperation. These discussions can be fraught with a lot of history and cumulative impacts, and so addressing the behaviour and engendering trust will take a lot of active effort. Whether and to what degree we are successful in fostering a more productive relationship focused on results will depend on the engagement of all involved.

Work continues on developing an "overflow" campground area within Bamfield-proper, and it is likely to be completed in August. Efforts also continue on the Mircrotel "micro hotel" project akin to the one in north Ladysmith, the work has been on addressing the increase in construction costs and working with our partners on financial solutions (Tseshaht, Hupacasath, and the developer). It appears as though our management have done a good job on identifying that financing, to a point where it doesn't actually cost HFN/HGB any more money in equity investments and the plan is that HFN should not have to underwrite it due to the work done by HGB. This may require some good conversations with creditors in August.

Work also continues on the review and possible amendments to the Economic Development Act and the Governance and Fiscal Agreement. Although that is assigned to a separate working group, I would note that the working group has included HGB input into their considerations as well and that is likely to take place in August if it does not occur in July.

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District – Progress Report and Emerging Issues

At the ACRD, we schedule only one meeting in July and August due to there being a lot of people on the governance side (directors) and the administrative side (staff) taking their annual holidays. As a result, these meetings tend to go longer due to the expanded agenda of one meeting carrying the loadout of what is normally two per month. This time around, though, my annual leave corresponded with this month's meeting and I did not attend.

External Relations – Progress Report and Emerging Issues

The major external consideration this month is my attendance to the "Political Advisory Table" for the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People Act with the Province of British Columbia's Attorney-General Niki Sharma and the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Spencer Chandra-Herbert with a good number of First Nations leaders from the Assembly of the First Nations (BC), Union of BC Indian Chiefs, and the First Nations Summit. I was selected as a representative of modern treaty nations (confirmed by the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations).

The work is serious and difficult given the tension between indigenous rights and political sentiments to which the Province needs to be seen as actively responsive. Fortunately, the group is well-facilitated by its two co-chairs, and the discussions were not at all positional but rather exploratory and relational and quite informative. There are more meetings slated for August and September, so we will see if this holds up. This endeavour is probably the most consequential provincial interface due to the importance of the political discourse on indigenous rights and title in BC right now, and given the ignorance or opportunism of political voices growing bolder, we need to ensure that people in BC are better informed about the value of good relationships between indigenous governments and peoples with BC's government and peoples. Whether we like it or not, separate issues like the Cowichan Decision, Modern Treaty and DRIPA have all been conflated together, and we need to help those who are willing to do right by all involved.

In addition, we continue preparing for the upcoming series of meetings with the BC government at both the Union of BC Municipalities conference in September and the First Nations Leadership Gathering some months later in November. We have much on the go in Huu-ay-aht, and we need to be able to keep the Province informed and enthusiastic in their helping us achieve goals that benefit everyone such as the Bamfield Road, various large scale economic development projects, the state of coastal forestry in BC, our relationship to and for our children and families, and so on and so forth.

Federally, we are engaged with the Major Projects Office on producing feedback on various projects of national interest that the federal government hopes to move forward. Their "one project, one process" approach is innovative, but it needs to be shown to adequately consider the rights and interests of First Nations, especially those like HFN with modern treaty. We are set to engage in two ways, government to government, but also to engage with citizens on their input and concerns. There is also a deeper relationship being fostered with Global Affairs Canada on helping to facilitate the efforts of the federal government to create more trade connections with other countries, not just the United States. Further integration into a pacific rim economy of trade is in the interests of Huu-ay-aht as much as it is for BC and Canada, and thus we do what we can where it makes sense to help move that forward.

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

Theresa.n@huuayaht.org

ƛ̓eko (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'wiiḥ 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 – ʔApwinisatḥʔ house – Mentored by Theresa Peters
Theresa Nookemus (Thlut' as aksup) – Ḥaw'eḥtak'amłatḥ house
Phyllis Williams sitting in for daughter Victoria Williams (ʔuutstuʔaksa)- ƛamahuus house
Andy Clappis (Ciicaacistuł) – Kuukw'iis house
Sherri Cook (Yaalthuuaa-uks)– Yaałuuwaštakaʔmałtḥ house
Tommy Happynook (ḥapinyuuk) – Čačaaḥsiʔas house
Alec Frank (ƛaacmiik) – 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'wiiḥ, to be known as the Ha'wiiḥ Council.
Representation on the Ha'wiiḥ 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'wiiḥ Council.
In addition to the role contemplated in 2.15, the Ha'wiiḥ Council shall assume those additional roles and responsibilities contemplated in this Constitution.
Constitution Act
Huu-ay-aht First Nations page 9

2011
https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/constitution-act.pdf

Ha'wiih Representative for Executive Council:

The Ha'wiih Representative attends meetings on behalf of the Ha'wiih Council, 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
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 video cameras are to be turned on throughout the duration of zoom meetings, 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.

A 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.

Ha'wiih last met on July 27, 2026, In attendance was: Staff support - Ha'wiih Clerk Janet Young, Tommy Happynook, Sherri Cook, Phyllis Williams, Theresa Peters, Theresa Nookemus.

Ha'wiih had a Witwak come do a monthly report which is new. This report was delivered by Sean Flickinger. He informed Ha'wiih there are 5 Witwak staff now working to not only guide, but to also inform and enforce the monitoring of rules, regulations as well as taking notice of any breeches of current exclusion orders.

The HFN law clerk will apprise Sean Flckinger and Witwak of anyone on an exculsion and variance order list.

There are 3 Exclusion orders coming up within the next year that will need to be reviewed by the original panellists that were on those 3 hearings to determine if they have completed any variances and or conditions along with any breeches that may have occurred during their exclusion order time and whether it may be rescinded and considered complete.

Lawrence Dushenski, HFN's in house Lawyer, came to discuss 3 items:

A) Tribunal appointments – Peter Kolenbrander has expressed interest in continuing being on Tribunal. Ha'wiih agreed that since he knows the position well and would like to continue, to let him do so.

   The other 2 appointees' terms will be up this coming Dec 2026 and July of 2026. Ha'wiih will have Lawrence Dushenski back to make those determinations.

B) The Community Safety Plan Naming – Lawrence and Hinatinyis worked together on this naming. More info to come.

C) Travel Expense Regulation – Lawrence let Ha'wiih know that these regulations were outdated with the Bamfield Roa now being chip sealed. There was discussion on new kilometre $'s, flat rates, proposing to use exact kilometers from GPS systems, etc.

Ha'wiih met with Ian Mackenzie and Fynley Calder on a Fur seal research update. Ha'wiih has recommended that this go to Executive Council as some decisions need to be made there.

An Honorarium guideline has been created to help our Ha'wiih clerk and Administration with better ease on what and how long any given meeting or interaction can be made more clearly on Honorariums for Ha'wiih.

A big thank you to Kristen Young who has graciously been working with the Youth program and has come to Ha'wiih to go over some Youth plans. She is looking to connect Youth with Culture and Elders. Kristen has begun to plan youth activities for the following:

July – August: Summer Fun & Land-Based Learning & Adventure & Leadership

- Summer youth camp (multi-day or weekly programming) – Sarita Lake and river, Fredrick Lake, Pachena Lake, Trout fishing Derby for youth, Canoe practice
- Regalia workshops – Not during summer. Winter thing and will be doing weekly regalia time through the year.
- Fishing trips & food harvesting – LNR team, Warriors and Culture team, youth
- Sport activities (Softball, hockey, soccer) - youth soccer, softball and hockey practices
- Beach days & water safety sessions - safety, Canoeing to beaches, Canoe Games and races
- Outdoor cooking workshops (traditional foods) – Traditional fire smoked fish and more
- Cultural storytelling nights around a fire – with camping days
- Camping trips (youth leadership roles encouraged) - Sarita Lake weekend, Culture exchange camps in other territories along west coast, Diana Island for 1 week, WCT weekend,
- Kayaking / ocean safety experiences – Canoe stuff (may be able to participate in canoe journeys if we start making this a frequent thing to canoe around)

- Team-building challenges and games
- Cultural mentorship pairing (youth + Elders) – nananiiqsu, youth, culture team gatherings/trips
- Photography or media storytelling project – Documenting all activities throughout the year in small video clips and put it all together to release an annual People Assembly video of culture and youth activities before making a public release? this would show how much we all actually do in a year with our citizens of all ages.
- Crab traps for culture team for ceremonies

September – Back to School & Support

- School readiness workshops (organization, goal setting) - youth
- Homework club launch - youth
- Youth check-in circles (mental wellness) - youth and Rena's team
- Traditional dancing, singing, and regalia workshops – return to weekly schedule
- Career exploration sessions - youth and education
- Community welcome-back event – First dance practice back, potluck (maybe try a mini potlatch and have big regalia brought out?) (TBT)

Daniel will be in Anacla x2 every week. Linnea will continue 2x in Port Alberni every week about Dance practice.

Upcoming events:

- T'lupitch games - August 5-9, 2026, Port Alberni, BC.
- HFN Days – August 13-15, 2026, Anacla BC

Nananiiqsu Society:

This society will reconvene in the fall of 2026.

Alliance of BC Modern Treaty:

About Collective Work:

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

Alliance Administration

- A meeting of the ABCMTN Holding Society Board of Directors was held in June to review the FY2025–26 year-end financial statements. The Board was also briefed on minor changes made to

the Human Resources Policy to include information about extended health benefits and to clarify policy on carrying forward annual sick leave entitlements.
- The ED met with the new Auditors—RHN Chartered Professional Accountants—to begin the audit process which will take place over August. The Board will review the audit during a regular meeting scheduled for October 30th.
- Alliance staff continue to work with 50th Parallel on the new website. We anticipate it will be ready to launch late July. The demo site has been shared with MTNs for feedback. We will move to phase 2 of the project which is focused on the development of educational resources about modern treaties in BC.

Premier's Forum

- A very successful Premier's Forum was held on June 4, hosted by the Yuułuʔiɬʔath̓ Government. For the first time, an Executive Technical Debrief was held the following day in Ucluelet. There were 30 in-person participants and 11 virtual, including executive-level staff from 10 Ministries. This technical meeting proved very helpful for advancing the work and will be incorporated into future Forums.
- A summary report has been produced that captures all requests made by MTN leaders, commitments made by BC, and initial follow-up actions identified by senior technical staff during the June 5 Technical Debrief. This has been shared with leaders and is available on the Alliance SharePoint.
- A debrief session with MTN leadership is scheduled for July 8 to gather feedback on the event andidentify any changes leaders would like to see for future events.
- Early discussions will begin soon to determine whether any MTNs are interested in hosting the 2027 Premier's Forum.

Alliance Management Committee

• The AMC meets monthly. This month, discussions included:
- the outcomes of the 2026 Premier's Forum, including what went well, opportunities for improvement, and initial planning considerations for the 2027 Forum.
- A recommendation from the Engagement Review Working Group to create a new working group dedicated to several recent Ministry of Health initiatives. Further details are provided in the ERWG section below.
- AMC members supported the creation of the new working group and will identify MTN representatives to participate. Meetings with BC will be scheduled in the coming weeks.
- A new Ministry of Children and Family Development initiative seeking MTN feedback on improving the coordination of various social services in BC. A meeting with MCFD on this initiative is scheduled for July to obtain more information and outline the pathways for MTN engagement if interested.

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)
Modern Treaty Implementation Policy:

- The MIRR policy team is leading the development of a provincial modern treaty implementation policy. A dedicated working group, supported by MTN representatives, is helping advance this longterm project. The goal is to finalize a draft policy by the end of the calendar year and secure approvals by the 2027 Premier's Forum.
- The Alliance developed an initial draft of the policy and shared it with BC for discussion at the June WG meeting. MIRR is now working on flushing out sections around governance and the establishment of intergovernmental forums. MTNs are working on a list of problems/issues we hope to solve through the implementation of this policy (e.g. the lack

of early and meaningful consultation with MTNs when negotiating agreements with other FNs).
- The next WG meeting is on August 6th. Meetings will move to a bi-weekly schedule starting September 17th.

Boundary Resolution (DRIPA Action 1.01):

- Action 1.01 states: *"In partnership with the Government of Canada, establish a new institution designed and driven by First Nations to provide supports to First Nations in their work of nation- and governance-rebuilding and boundary resolution in accordance with First Nations laws, customs and traditions."*
- Following repeated requests from the Alliance for MTN involvement in initiatives related to this action, MIRR leads met with MTN representatives on June 26 to provide an update on work to date and to better understand MTN interests in boundary resolution. BC confirmed that FNLC has been funded to develop a toolkit to support FNs who want to work to address boundary issues. MTNs made clear they have interests that must be considered by their treaty partners; this work cannot be carried out to the exclusion of MTNs.
- BC advised they will be working to develop policy around Crown conduct and committed to meaningful engagement with MTNs. We understand that a letter from the MIRR Minister to each MTN and other FNs is forthcoming.
- MTN reps will caucus in July to articulate a collective position and identify shared priorities. The FNLC consultant leading the development of the toolkit will be briefing MTNs.

Declaration Act Secretariat (DAS)
Declaration Act Action Plan Review & Renewal:

- The Alliance has been meeting regularly with DAS on the review of the Declaration Act Action Plan, as required under DRIPA. The review will inform the renewal process, which is scheduled to begin in the fall.
- A caucus was held in June to review requests for feedback on action items from several ministries and to flush out key messages to convey in the general review process. The Alliance will submit a consolidated feedback document to DAS by the July 31 deadline, summarizing MTN experiences with the first Action Plan.

Declaration Act (DRIPA) Review:

- BC is working with FNs to determine a potential path forward on DRIPA to address legal risks emerging from the Gitxaala decision. An in-person All-Chiefs Forum was held on June 8 in Vancouver to discuss what a collaborative process could look like that reflects the priorities of interested parties while also meeting BC's October 2026 timeline. BC has engaged Grand Chief Steven Point and the Honorable Russell Brown to co-facilitate the review process and lead engagement with First Nations
- A Political Advisory Table has been established with representatives from FN organizations and leaders representing diverse rights. Chief John Jack was appointed as the Alliance representative, with technical support from the Alliance ED and Brent Lehman of Ratcliff. The Alliance is holding weekly caucus meetings (Thursdays from 10-12) to provide updates to MTN reps and obtain their input.
- The Alliance's priorities include advocating for the protection of modern treaty rights through the inclusion of a non-derogation clause in DRIPA and all DRIPA agreements.

Ministry of Infrastructure (INF)
Infrastructure Projects Act Regulations (Bill 15):

- The Infrastructure Projects Act provides BC with new regulatory tools intended to accelerate infrastructure projects. An MTN WG has been meeting regularly with INF to support the development of regulations. The WG met with BC in June to receive updates on Cabinet-requested changes to the proposed regulation that determines which projects are eligible for expedited review. Once a final version is shared, the Alliance has requested written responses to all MTN feedback, including rationale where feedback was not incorporated.

Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions
Renewable Energy Projects Act Regulations (Bill 14):

- The Renewable Energy Projects Act transfers regulatory authority for renewable energy projects to the BC Energy Regulator (BCER). The WG meets regularly with the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions and BCER to engage on policy and regulatory development.
- The WG met with BC and BCER in June to discuss MTN feedback on new engagement language being developed for MTNs. This language will be included in an updated interim guidance document for proponents and further refined in a final guidance document expected early next year.

Environmental Assessment Office (EAO)
Environmental Assessment Act (EAA) 5-Year Review:

- An MTN WG is engaged with the EAO on the legislated five-year review of the Environmental Assessment Act. The process is expected to span approximately two years and will follow a phased approach, with separate timelines for each major priority area. The initial phase has focused on amendments to the dispute resolution process and the development of a new Issues Resolution Protocol. In June, MTNs provided initial feedback on policy and procedure documents intended to guide proponents, First Nations, and EAO staff through these processes, including EAO's proposed roles and responsibilities.
- MTN representatives also received a consultative draft of amended regulations for dispute resolution facilitators. Written feedback is being prepared by Alliance legal counsel and will be submitted in July to meet EAO's deadline.

Engagement Review Working Group:

- The ERWG meets bi-weekly to assess interest in collective engagement opportunities, including attendance at information sessions on specific initiatives. The group also debriefs on engagement activities and makes recommendations to the AMC regarding potential collective action.

Engagements reviewed by the working group in the past month were:

Drinking Water Infrastructure Financing – MTNs received letters from HMA regarding a proposed change to how municipalities obtain public approval for borrowing to improve drinking water infrastructure. After obtaining additional information from the BC project lead, ERWG members requested a consultative draft of the proposed legislative amendments and updates when regulation development begins. This work is expected to occur in the fall and winter.

Gender-Based Violence in Industrial Workcamps – A consultant working for the Environmental Assessment Office advised MTNs of virtual sessions regarding a proposed environmental

assessment condition for proponents operating industrial work camps. The ERWG determined that bilateral engagement would be the most appropriate approach.

Patient Care Quality Program – The Ministry of Health informed MTNs of a new multi-year initiative aimed at improving BC's health system, with a focus on addressing anti-Indigenous racism and improving cultural safety. The ERWG recommended that the Alliance engage collectively on this initiative. A new working group is being established, and the Alliance will soon schedule a meeting with BC to learn more.

Road Safety Action Plan – BC offered all FNs a virtual information session on early work to renew provincial road safety action plans through 2030. After reviewing the materials, the ERWG requested an MTN-specific session to determine whether any proposed actions or new initiatives align with MTN priorities. The Alliance will schedule this session in the coming weeks.

Independent Power Producers Regulatory Change – MTNs received a letter from the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions regarding a proposal to reduce regulatory requirements for independent power producers supplying electricity to FortisBC. After reviewing additional information, the ERWG determined that the initiative was a low priority and recommended no further collective action.

Leave Entitlement for Military Reservists – The Ministry of Labor sent letters advising of a proposed change in labor code affecting leave entitlements for military members. The majority of MTNs are of the legal opinion that federal employment laws are most relevant to their governments, not provincial statutes. No collective action was recommended.

FEDERAL INITIATIVES
Fisheries: Salmon Allocation Policy Review:

- Anita Blakley of LGL has been representing MTNs on the Salmon Allocation Policy Multi-Party Working Group (MPWG) and the FN–DFO Committee. She has also participated in FN Fisheries Council (FNFC) meetings, as the Council has been actively engaged in this work. Updates and requests for MTN input are provided through Fisheries WG.
- In early June, Anita advised the FNFC to seek updates on the status of the Ministerial SAP Package. DFO confirmed the package includes: the MPWG Recommendations, the FN Supplemental Report (which includes a MTN Supplemental Report and cover letter), a summary of external consolations, and a DFO briefing note. DFO also developed a one-page forward for the MPWGRecommendations to minimize risks of misunderstanding or misinterpretation.
- Anita recommended amendments be made to emphasize that although all MPWG members signed off on the Recommendations, that does not imply support for all recommendations. She also asked that MTNs not be lumped in with FNs generally and that a clear distinction be made within the forward.
- On June 18, DFO advised the FN-DFO Committee that the FN Supplementary Report was distributed to reps from the commercial and recreational sectors. This report was intended to be shared only with DFO. As was commented by a couple of MTN reps, this incident reinforces broader concerns and challenges in our relations with DFO.
- On June 24, FNFC hosted a webinar providing an overview of the SAP review process, a summary of recommendations, and an update on next steps. The problematic breach of confidentiality was raised. No additional information was shared by DFO. MTNs may want to consider a collective response to DFO as is already being contemplated by the FNLC.

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. In May, MTN reps reviewed draft guidelines shared under a confidentiality agreement, and a collective letter was submitted outlining some positive aspects and several concerns regarding both the process and the content of the proposed guidelines. We also shared some draft text for areas we felt needed improving.
- CIRNAC indicated that a revised draft would be shared early July. We have now been informed this draft is not anticipated until early August.

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

- New date and location to be determined.

Councillor ƛicitatḥ Edward R. Johnson - July 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

- From time-to-time I like to work out of the Infrastructure office on 3rd Avenue.
- Introductory meeting with FNII/ HFN. https://fnii.ca/ - This was a very informative meeting understanding and learning what the First Nations Infrastructure Institute has to offer to communities. Through the meeting we learnt that there are other modern treaty nations that utilize their services. Participating in the meeting was my Technical Support director of infrastructure and our economic development officer. Later we debriefed and discussed and found that this interaction in networking was very useful and looking forward to working together in the future and most likely going to be bringing the conversation to committee of the whole.
- Growcer Project - Open House is happening end of Aug
- Biweekly meeting with Director of Infrastructure & Capital Projects Infrastructure
- HFN Infrastructure and the Housing Society are working on upgrading the funding policies for HFN citizens. The EC will be reviewing the policies in late July
- BC Business House - Trade & logistics infrastructure showcase – Vancouver. information regarding BC Business House, which is being organized by the Province of British Columbia during the FIFA World Cup 2026TM in Vancouver from June 12 – July 8, 2026. BC Business House is intended to bring together global business leaders, investors, government representatives, and industry delegates to explore trade, investment, and partnership opportunities across British Columbia. The programming is expected to include networking events, sector-focused engagements, investor discussions, and business-to-business opportunities across sectors such as energy, tourism, trade and logistics, infrastructure, agriculture and food, mining, technology, and related industries. During team discussions, a few members from our HFN organization were recommended as potential participants to attend relevant engagements and explore opportunities that may align with HFN and HGB priorities and projects. Info on BC Business House link https://www.britishcolumbia.ca/bcbusinesshouse/. Additionally, Huu-ay-aht First Nations has been highlighted within BC's "Look West" strategy document (page 13), which showcases opportunities and investment potential across rural and regional British Columbia. This is a positive opportunity for HFN to continue positioning itself as "open for business" and to further strengthen relationships with potential investors, partners, and organizations. Look West Strategy link here for more info https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/economic-development/find-support-organizations/rural-economic-development/guides/regional-investment-showcase/bc_regional_investment_showcase_dealbook.pdf

- The Cultural Centre construction is progressing. The siding is being installed starting June 8th. The contract for the water/sewer connections was awarded to Knappett Construction with the work commencing this summer.
- The Oomiiqsu upgrades contract has been awarded. Construction schedule is pending and construction is due to start this summer.
- Working with the team to have more information on our capital projects in the ED report and what that would look like. The team is going to come up with something for the next ED report.
- The Anacla technical staff have completed a milestone stage in water training by qualifying for Level 2 certification. Also, staff are working towards starting apprenticeships in construction and plumbing by completing upgrading.
- The Anacla Quarry contractor is on site and as of July 1/2026 they have completed an estimated 8000 cubic meters of material production. Blasting will commence again in July.

Children and Family Wellness Committee

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

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- From time to time, I like to work out of the CFW office at the Oomiiqsu.
- Biweekly meeting with Director of Child and Family Wellness.
- Met with Pacheedaht First Nation Chief Jeff Jones, on the direction of Chief John Jack, to talk about Stackabl Homes BC.
- Shared Interest Agreement / YCFWA - End of June marks 3 months of operating under the shared interest agreement. I am looking into if we can get a report this month and hope to have something to share in August. Our in-house legal general counsel, Director of Legal Affairs & Treaty Implementation, will be working on this with our CFW Director on an internal report associated with the implementation of the Shared Interest Agreement with BC and our Act. Below are some questions:

    - What is working and being done?
    - Where are there alignments that are working?
    - Are there areas that need further work – or more importantly, wording changes that ensure HFN is meeting our needs?
    - How can we work to ensure we are meeting areas of our Act through the shared interest agreement?

    Ultimately, we need to ensure that accountability is occurring and that we are not having to make major changes that could impact HFN in the future but we still are meeting our needs. Here is a link on the shared interest agreement that was in our Uyaqhmis. https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/December-Newsletter-Final.pdf
- The Dad's Connect is going well and is being led by Huuayaht fathers. CFW welcoming of new FPW (Family Preservation Worker) aligning with recommendation 18. Our FPW is working on lineage documents and culture plans. Art therapy for our HFN Youth is going well. Kids in care quarterly meeting continuous. As of year-to-date, Huuayaht Citizens seen 788. The team collects a lot of data like financial, housing, grocery, legal and court, parenting, foster parent, cultural supports. This is very valuable data that is going to help us over the next 5 and 10 years.

- Reading thought documents for Jurisdiction pathway phase 2 stemming from meeting with MCFD and our legal team.
- Committee members have been selected by executive council. I'm looking forward to getting back to regular bimonthly meetings and looking to get a good report on our Mother Center.
- These programs and services continue to flourish - everything from dance group, art therapy, kids in care, quarterly meetings and community engagement sessions.
- onboarding of new staff is going well - family preservation worker.
- Some stats for June: Citizens seen 71; averted removals 37; yr to date 788 HFN citizens seen; financial supports 234.
- Oomiiqsu update on incident - Oomiiqsu staff responded swiftly, calmly, and professionally throughout the event, helping ensure the safety and well-being of all children, families, residents, and colleagues. Their commitment to safety and cooperation during the evacuation is sincerely appreciated. While the site was being assessed and cleared for re-entry, families and staff gathered at the Multiplex. The team at PAGO generously provided refreshments and snacks to support those affected. Some families chose to stay with friends or relatives, while others remained at the Multiplex, where dinner was provided. FortisBC, BC Hydro, and the Port Alberni Fire Department responded to the scene and worked together to manage the situation and restore safe access to the building as quickly as possible. At approximately 8:00 p.m., residents were safely authorized to return to the building. The Infrastructure Project Team will continue working with the contractor and the Oomiiqsu management team to review the incident, identify lessons learned, and implement any necessary corrective actions. The response from all organizations involved demonstrated a strong commitment to safety, collaboration, and effective problem-solving. We are grateful to everyone for their patience, cooperation, and support throughout the incident. In to end everyone was save and back in the MC by the evening.

Deputy-Chief Councillor

<u>Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives</u>

- From time to time I like to Work out of AGO as EC and Deputy Chief Councillor
- Chaired COW meeting
- Was Acting Chief Councillor (ACC) for 2 -weeks. It is always a pleasure to Act in this role.
- Chaired EC meeting as ACC
- Biweekly meeting with EC as ACC
- Called a SEC meeting as ACC
- As ACC I was interviewed by CTV. The interview was about the Bamfield Main Road redesignation. Some key messages were to protect the investment, keeping people safe and supporting communities and the regional economy. I also had an interview, again with CBC regarding the West Coast Trail Rainfall and the last interview was with a radio station.
- McGilll MBA students will be visiting at the end of September.
- Getting ready for COW meeting setting agenda.
- Setting up pre meeting before our HFN and HGB working group meeting.
- HFN/HGB Working Group - In Person
- Reviewing Huu-ay-aht Days Planning Meeting Minutes. Things are coming together. I am looking forward to gathering with our Huuayaht family. This is always a very special time for us and HFN to gather so much good energy
- Senator Paul (PJ) Prosper - Visit to Maa-nulth First Nations Territory. Here is a biography excerpt from the Senate of Canada:

- “Paul Prosper is a Mi’kmaq lawyer with more than 25 years of experience in Indigenous legal issues ranging from project management to First Nation land use and occupation, to governance and community development. A lifelong advocate for the rights of the Mi’kmaq people, Mr. Prosper is the former Chief of the Paqtnkek (Afton) Mi’kmaw Nation. In 2020, he was elected Assembly of First Nations’ (AFN) Regional Chief for Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, representing the collective interests of 17 Mi’kmaw First Nations in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia and over 600 First Nations across Canada. Mr. Prosper has served on several boards and committees, including the boards of the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat, the Atlantic First Nations Water Authority, and Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey as well as the Eastern Door L’nuk Lawyers Group, Ta’n Etli-tpi’tmk Association, and the AFN Chiefs Committee on Child and Family Services. From 2010 to 2013, he taught Mi’kmaq governance and Aboriginal and treaty rights at Cape Breton University. In 2020, Mr. Prosper was inducted as a member of the Bertha Wilson Honour Society at the Dalhousie University Schulich School of Law in recognition of his exceptional service to the legal profession and community. He was also named Wika’paltultimk (Counsellor) for the L’nuk People by the Eastern Door L’nuk Lawyers Group in recognition of his outstanding service to Indigenous Peoples in the legal profession.Mr. Prosper holds a Bachelor of Laws from Dalhousie University and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from Cape Breton University.”

We had Lunch provided by Huu-ay-aht First Nation: Kiixin Beach Huu-ay-aht Territory. We took this opportunity to talk about Bill C-10 - An Act respecting the Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation. An independent Commissioner to assess the implementation of modern treaties is a proposal that the Land Claims Agreements Coalition first put forward in 2003 - the oldest bill in the house! This will give Modern Treaty Nations direct access to parliament the way that the treaty was intended to be implemented. Bill C-10 would establish an independent Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation to review and report to Parliament on how modern treaties are being carried out. Modern treaties are complex agreements that are often misunderstood or inconsistently implemented by government, and modern treaty partners have been advocating for an independent oversight body since 2003. While some critics argue the Commissioner would lack enforcement powers, treaty partners already have access to dispute resolution mechanisms and the courts, though litigation is costly, lengthy, and adversarial. The Commissioner’s value lies in providing independent oversight, access to government records, and recommendations to improve implementation and advance reconciliation. Unlike the Auditor General, whose reviews of treaty implementation have been rare and limited, the Commissioner would provide dedicated and ongoing attention to treaty obligations. Developed collaboratively with modern treaty partners and supported by the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Bill C-10 now requires third reading in the House of Commons, and supporters are seeking assistance to advance the legislation when Parliament resumes in September. C-10 updates Despite significant efforts including press releases and emails to MPs, bill C-10 did not make it to the final voting list before the House rose for the summer. Jillian will continue to support keeping C-10 on the docket of MPs and the media in order to ensure it makes it to a final vote and the Senate in fall 2027.

We travelled by boat from Macoah to Ucluelet Harbour looking over the territory of the Ucluelet FN and Toquaht Nation before going through the BGI and into Huuayaht territory. As we entered our territory, I talked about HFN history as going through the Deer Group Islands and into the Bamfield inlet and over to Kiixin. After the Kiixin tour, we travelled by

boat to our oyster farm before going over into Uchucklesaht Territory and traveling back to Macoah and over to YFN for dinner and culture night. Throughout the day I found time to talk about bill C-10 and fisheries.

- Pachena Bay Music Festival Invitation.
- Worked out of AGO waiting for Canoes to come into the Bay on Thursday 16th. Participated in culture night. The canoers decided to stay another night and travel back down on Saturday. A couple of canoers had dinner with the nation and I saw them off Saturday morning.
- Biweekly Bilat John/Edward
- CSA + Housekeeping Amendments R-8,11,21,25,27,29,30
- Travelled to Pacheedaht First Nation and met with Chief Councillor Jeff Jones. Over the past year, Huu-ay-aht has been exploring an innovative affordable housing initiative in partnership with Stackabl Homes BC. While the project initially focuses on introducing a CSA-certified prefabricated housing solution to the Canadian market, our long-term vision extends well beyond housing procurement. We are exploring opportunities related to Indigenous participation in the housing supply chain, value-added forestry and assembly. Huu-ay-aht leadership and staff recently returned from a due diligence visit to China where we toured the manufacturing facility, met with the leadership and engineering teams, and inspected the demonstration unit that is currently on its way to Port Renfrew. The demonstration unit is expected to be showcased later this summer and will provide governments, First Nations, developers, and other stakeholders with an opportunity to see the product firsthand.
- EC Agenda Review meeting
- BC Business House - Trade & logistics infrastructure showcase – Vancouver BC Business House is intended to bring together global business leaders, investors, government representatives, and industry delegates to explore trade, investment, and partnership opportunities across British Columbia. The programming is expected to include networking events, sector-focused engagements, investor discussions, and business-to-business opportunities across sectors such as energy, tourism, trade and logistics infrastructure, agriculture and food, mining, technology, and related industries. During discussions with Karen, a few names from our organization were recommended as potential participants to attend relevant engagements and explore opportunities that may align with HFN and HGB priorities and projects.
- Pre-meeting Ministry of Transportation and Transit with our BC GR firm – Framepoint.
- Discussion with HFN & JEG re: Stackabl
- EC Portfolios https://huuayaht.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/EC-Portfolios-September-2025.pdf
- Met with Minister Farnworth re The Bamfield Main. in 2021. Our key questions in our meeting were:
    - What long-term maintenance funding and service-level commitments can the Ministry provide to ensure the Bamfield Main Road remains safe and climate-resilient?
    - Are there opportunities to establish a bilateral roads working group to coordinate maintenance, enforcement, and emergency planning?
    - How can the Province help secure federal infrastructure dollars to complement provincial investments?

  We walked away from the meeting with a working group scheduled for end of August and some idea of what it's going to take to redesignate the road. Creative solutions are needed.

Citizenship Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Discussion with Citizenship Committee Chair and Tech. At the meeting we talked about Citizenship committee recruitment, current treaty enrolment and citizenship process, and on current applications in process.
- Committee members have been selected. Looking forward in going over presentation from the Acting Law Clerk/In-House Legal Counsel on the Citizenship and Treat Enrolment Act, a presentation from the Acting Law Clerk/In-House Legal Counsel on Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest and Completion of the Public Officers Oath then have a separate meeting to go through the treaty enrolment.

Stackabl

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Significant progress has been made on the modular housing initiative. The pre-feasibility study originally led by UPL1FT completed stakeholder engagement and delivered the first two milestones. Following UPL1FT's decision not to proceed with the remaining work, HFN's Economic Development Department assumed responsibility for completing the assessment internally, with plans for independent third-party validation upon completion.
- HFN leadership and staff conducted a due diligence visit to China, including tours of SHBC's manufacturing facility, meetings with leadership and technical teams, and inspection of a completed demonstration unit. Additional discussions with Beijing Forestry University and Canadian diplomatic representatives explored opportunities in forestry innovation, value-added wood products, and potential integration of HFN forestry resources into future housing supply chains.
- A key milestone was achieved when SHBC's manufacturing partner received conditional CSA A277 certification for prefabricated wood structures, supporting market entry into Canada. The Port Renfrew demonstration unit has been completed and shipped to Canada, with installation and a public showcase planned.
- Business development efforts continue to gain momentum, with potential housing opportunities identified through Port Renfrew Management Ltd. (approximately 900 units), the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (approximately 25 units), and early discussions with Pacheedaht First Nation.
- HFN and SHBC continue negotiating a strategic partnership framework and non-binding term sheet focused on ensuring meaningful HFN ownership, participation, and long-term economic benefits.

HFN/FORUM Development Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- This committee should be meeting in the coming weeks – looking forward to getting started.
- Significant progress has been made in advancing the HFN–FORUM partnership. Executive Council approved the proposed governance structure, establishing both a Development Committee and a Joint Project Team to oversee negotiations, due diligence, and project implementation.

- HFN and FORUM continue to negotiate the draft Principles Agreement, with substantial progress achieved on governance provisions. Discussions remain ongoing regarding several key commercial, financial, and project-specific terms.
- FORUM provided a high-level financial model outlining a potential partnership and investment structure for the initial Proof-of-Concept projects. Administration is reviewing the model to assess the proposed economics, risk allocation, and financial implications for HFN. To support this review, Administration is exploring the engagement of independent financial advisors to validate the model and ensure HFN's interests, including land value recognition and long-term returns, are appropriately protected
- In addition, Administration and legal counsel are examining governance considerations related to HGB-controlled fee simple lands that may be included in future projects. Recommendations and options will be presented to Executive Council for direction.

HFN/HGB Governance Working Group

Progress on Achieiving Key Initiatives:

- The Governance Working Group continues its review of existing governance documents, policies, and agreements to ensure alignment with established governance requirements and clarify roles, responsibilities, and accountability structures. Documents under review include the draft Memorandum of Understanding, Protocol Development Document, Roles and Responsibilities framework, governance policies, committee terms of reference, and codes of conduct.

- Key areas of focus include:
    - Clarifying governance roles between Huu-ay-aht Government (HFN) and the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses (HGB).
    - Reviewing board governance practices, committee structures, and director accountability mechanisms.
    - Confirming compliance with existing governance requirements, including annual conflict of interest disclosures, CEO evaluation processes, and board oversight responsibilities.
    - Assessing governance provisions related to conduct, ethics, procurement, financial oversight, and director reimbursement.

- The review is being guided by the Governance and Fiscal Agreement, which affirms that HGB operates under its own governance structure, with independent operating boards responsible for oversight and CEO performance management. While government retains authority over certain major decisions, day-to-day operations remain the responsibility of HGB's governing bodies.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – July 2026

Finance Report

The finance committee met on July 28th.

May and June financials have been completed. We are still operating within our budget for the year. Year-to-date results have shown an operation surplus. The first Quarter finance report is on par with last year percentages and the renumeration report is completed.

The first draft of the audit for the Nation has been completed. The only remaining outstanding matters involve refining the language and confirming the placement of several categories to ensure consistency and clarity throughout the documents. We are, as of this report, waiting the audit report for Huumiis Ventures Limited Partnership. This is very important as we will need a forest valuation or assessment of the economic value of our forest asset, which may require a write-down of the forest valuation due to poor market conditions, reduced allowable harvest levels, and many other factors.

House Financing and Mortgages:

The Nation has good news for citizens applying for mortgages off Treaty Settlement Lands.

Assistance with down payments will be provided up to a maximum of $20,000 as well as assistance of $3000 for closing costs. The citizen will have to match the funds they are applying for. Bottom line - everyone applying will still have to be approved for a mortgage through the bank. The moneys approved and received for the deposit amount is forgivable after five years.

As well, the CFO and I have completed talks with the Royal Bank regarding mortgages on Treaty Settlement Lands. We have secured mortgage funding for this and are awaiting confirmation from the bank this month.

Economic Development Report

<u>Stackabl Homes B.C.(SHBC) and HFN</u>

The Stackabl Homes Team met with BMSC in Vancouver for further discussions on the the affordable housing initiative and potential opportunities to collaborate regarding their housing needs in the future for their Bamfield sites. Discussions also included a joint venture to apply for funds from the Build Canada Homes program.

The SHBC Team has met with the Cowichan First Nation to discuss their housing needs for 14 housing units. The Show Home Project is on schedule and has been shipped and transported to the Port Renfrew site to be assembled. The August 22 soft opening is on schedule at the moment; also, a September Open House Publicity session is scheduled for the press, politicians, dignitaries and investors. As for the Joint Venture between HFN and SHBC, the prefeasibility study and Term sheet Agreement continues.

<u>Cowichan Tribes and HFN</u>

Collaboration between HFN and Khowutzun Development Corporation (KDC) economic development corporation are currently in progress. This will strengthen economic development and create opportunities for both Nations. This also provides an opportunity to evaluate, pursue and exchange Business opportunities for both Nations. We are also in the process of collaborating

with other Nations on the East coast of Vancouver Island to potentially form an Indigenous Economic Alliance.

Community Safety Plan

The community safety plan discussions continue, with focus on the importance of being culturally grounded, stewardship of the land and creating a healthy environment. This plan will include Youth, Elders, Health Providers, and Police to name a few.

China

Matt Ma, director of the joint McGill-Zhejiang University MBA program will be visiting Vancouver Island and our territory with 30 MBA candidates. The purpose of this trip is to learn about HFN's history and culture.

Senator Paul Prosper Visit

Met with Senator Paul Prosper and his group who were touring with Maa-Nulth First Nations on a relationship building tour. We visited the Timber Tiles and oyster facilities in Port Alberni.

Councillor Stephen Rayner Executive Council Report – July 2026

https://huuayaht.org/councillor-stephen-rayner/

Area of Responsibility:

Law and Policy Committee (Executive Council Portfolio Holder: In July, the Law & Policy Committee continued to advance key legislative priorities for Huu-ay-aht First Nations. The Committee held a meeting during the month where members received updates on the Economic Development Act, Financial Administration Act, and the Lands Act and Regulations. The Committee reviewed the work completed to date, discussed the proposed direction of the legislative changes, and provided input and feedback to help guide the next stages of development.

Work also continued on the Economic Development Act through the working group, which I sit on. The working group continues to review potential amendments and improvements to the Act, with a focus on ensuring that Huu-ay-aht's economic development framework remains aligned with Huu-ay-aht law, governance requirements, and the Nation's broader economic priorities. This remains an important area of work as Huu-ay-aht continues to strengthen the governance and accountability framework surrounding its economic development activities.

The Committee will continue to monitor the development of these legislative initiatives and provide direction and recommendations as they progress. This work supports the broader goal of ensuring Huu-ay-aht laws and regulations remain practical, effective, and responsive to the evolving needs and priorities of the Nation.

Emerging Issues: Continued work on the Economic Development Act remains a key priority. The Committee will also continue to review and provide input on proposed amendments to the Financial Administration Act and Lands Act and Regulations as this work progresses.

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 July, I continued advancing Huu-ay-aht's clean energy priorities, with a focus on progressing existing projects, strengthening relationships with government and regulatory partners, and continuing to identify new opportunities for Huu-ay-aht-led clean energy development. Work continued on the offshore floating wind project, completion and commissioning of the Anacla Government Office solar project, and broader discussions with First Nations and industry partners regarding future energy development opportunities.

Offshore Floating Wind Pilot, SeaTwirl: Work continued throughout July to advance the offshore floating wind project with SeaTwirl. We continued working closely with SeaTwirl and its technical team to move the project through the pre-feasibility phase and further develop the technical, regulatory, and commercial pathway required to move the project forward.

Engagement with the Province and key regulatory organizations also continued. We remain in discussions with the BC Energy Regulator and the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions regarding the project, including regulatory requirements and the broader pathway for offshore renewable energy development. These conversations remain important as the project progresses and as we work to better understand the approvals and permitting that may ultimately be required.

We have also continued engagement with BC Hydro, and BC Hydro has now assigned a representative to work directly with Huu-ay-aht on the project. One of the opportunities currently being explored is whether the previous Electricity Purchase Agreement associated with the Sarita Micro-Hydro Project could potentially be transitioned or otherwise used to support the offshore wind project. Discussions are continuing with BC Hydro to better understand what options may be available and what would be required to pursue this opportunity.

Overall, the project continues to move forward positively. Our immediate focus remains on completing the pre-feasibility work, working through the regulatory and interconnection considerations, and continuing to develop the partnership with SeaTwirl as the project moves toward its next stage.

Anacla Government Office Solar Project: The Anacla Government Office solar project is now complete. The remaining work is focused on final commissioning and completing the required coordination with BC Hydro so that the system can be fully operational.

Completion of this project represents another important step in implementing Huu-ay-aht's clean energy priorities at the community level. Once fully commissioned, the system will provide locally generated renewable energy at the Government Office and will continue to serve as a practical example of how clean energy projects can support Huu-ay-aht's broader energy resilience, sustainability, and long-term cost-reduction objectives.

Sector Engagement, Strategic Partnerships & Multi-Nation Collaboration: Throughout July, I continued discussions with First Nations, development corporations, and energy developers regarding potential opportunities for collaboration on clean energy projects. These conversations are focused on identifying projects that can create long-term economic opportunities while increasing First Nations ownership and participation in the clean energy sector.

During the month, we met with Tiicma Development Corporation, led by Gary Wilson, to discuss potential opportunities to work together on future energy projects. We have also continued conversations with other First Nations along the coast regarding potential multi-Nation collaboration and opportunities to develop energy projects collectively.

In addition, discussions have continued with energy developers regarding potential projects within Huu-ay-aht territory and opportunities that may have a broader regional benefit. These conversations remain important as we continue to assess potential clean energy development opportunities, build relationships with potential partners, and position Huu-ay-aht to participate meaningfully in future energy development.

Emerging Issues: Key priorities moving forward include advancing the SeaTwirl pre-feasibility work, continuing discussions with BC Hydro regarding the previous Sarita Micro-Hydro Electricity Purchase Agreement, completing commissioning of the Anacla solar project, and continuing to identify viable First Nations-led and multi-Nation clean energy opportunities.

Climate Sustainability (Executive Council Joint Portfolio Holder: In July, I continued to support the Climate Sustainability portfolio with a focus on climate resiliency, emergency preparedness, and identifying opportunities to strengthen Huu-ay-aht's long-term resilience to climate-related risks and emergencies.

This month, I met with Sean Flickinger to review the priorities, planning, and ongoing initiatives he is advancing through his work in emergency services and emergency preparedness. The meeting was very productive and provided an opportunity to better understand the work already underway, as well as how these initiatives connect with Huu-ay-aht's broader climate resiliency priorities.

Sean has established a strong set of priorities and planning initiatives to help improve preparedness and resilience within Huu-ay-aht territory. We discussed current projects, future priorities, and areas where additional support could help move this work forward. My focus within the portfolio will be to support Shawn in advancing these priorities, particularly by helping identify potential funding opportunities, government programs, and other supports that could assist with implementation.

Going forward, I will continue working with Sean and supporting staff efforts to strengthen climate resiliency and emergency preparedness. This includes looking for opportunities to access provincial and federal funding, build relationships with relevant government agencies, and ensure Huu-ay-aht is well positioned to advance priority resilience initiatives as funding and partnership opportunities become available.

Emerging Issues: The key priority is identifying funding and government supports to help advance Huu-ay-aht's climate resiliency and emergency preparedness initiatives.

Capital Raise (Portfolio): In July, I continued advancing the Capital Raise portfolio with a focus on the Framework Planning Project and the ship recycling and broader marine infrastructure opportunity. Both projects continued to make good progress through negotiations, project development, government engagement, partnership development, and ongoing work to identify the structures and supports needed to move these major opportunities forward.

The focus continues to be on ensuring these projects are developed in a way that protects Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests, strengthens economic opportunities for the Nation, and creates a clear pathway toward implementation. This includes ensuring appropriate governance, partnerships, financing, government support, and due diligence are incorporated as the projects move through their respective development stages.

Framework Planning Project: In July, the Framework Planning Project continued to move forward through ongoing negotiations with the Forum team. A significant area of progress has been the development of the governance model for the project. We are now using this governance framework to help guide the continued development of the document and principles that will ultimately inform and support completion of the Master Agreement.

Negotiations remain ongoing, and we continue to work carefully through the details to ensure that the final agreement appropriately reflects Huu-ay-aht's governance requirements, development priorities, and long-term interests. The governance work completed to date provides an important foundation for defining how decisions will be made, how projects will be advanced, and how Huu-ay-aht and its partners will work together as individual development opportunities move forward.

We also continue to work with the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses to identify potential business and development opportunities connected to the Framework Project. Their involvement will be important as we move from broader planning into the identification and development of specific opportunities that can create economic benefits for Huu-ay-aht.

While the project remains under negotiation, I have continued raising awareness of the broader opportunity through government discussions. This included conversations with MLA George Anderson and our MLA Josie Osborne regarding the potential of the Framework Project and the opportunities it could create for Huu-ay-aht and the region. These discussions are intended to continue building awareness and relationships that may become important as the project advances toward future implementation.

Overall, negotiations continue to move ahead, and our focus remains on establishing a strong agreement and governance foundation before proceeding into the next stages of project development.

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: The ship recycling project continued to make very strong progress in July and is increasingly developing into a broader marine infrastructure opportunity for Huu-ay-aht and the Alberni Valley.

Work is continuing on the pre-feasibility phase, including further development of the project concept, site considerations, government engagement, and the information required to support future funding and investment discussions. We have identified one site that provides a strong opportunity for the project while also continuing to assess whether additional sites or complementary development opportunities could strengthen the overall business case.

As the project develops, we are also looking beyond ship recycling alone. There is a significant opportunity to consider ship repair and potentially ship construction alongside ship recycling. Developing these complementary activities could create a much stronger marine infrastructure and industrial opportunity, diversify potential revenue streams, and position Huu-ay-aht and the Alberni Valley for a larger role in British Columbia’s marine sector.

We are currently developing concise key project information that can be provided to the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth, the Premier’s Office, and the federal government. This will help clearly communicate the project opportunity, the work completed to date, and the areas where government participation and support may be required to help move the project forward.

Government relations work is also continuing at both the provincial and federal levels. We are working with government relations advisors in both jurisdictions to build awareness, identify potential funding and policy supports, and ensure the project is being brought forward to the appropriate decision-makers. There continues to be considerable interest in the project and strong provincial support for advancing the opportunity.

We have also continued conversations with local and regional leaders, including MLA George Anderson, MLA Josie Osborne, and MP Gord Johns, who have been supportive of the project and its potential benefits for the region. We continue to work through the Alberni Valley working group, where the Huu-ay-aht project has become the lead project being advanced as part of the broader regional marine infrastructure initiative.

Our project partners also continue to provide strong support and expertise as the pre-feasibility work advances. The focus remains on developing a project that is commercially viable, environmentally responsible, and capable of creating meaningful long-term employment, training, business, and revenue opportunities for Huu-ay-aht.

Overall, the project continues to build momentum. Expanding the concept to consider ship recycling, repair, and construction provides an opportunity to develop a much broader marine infrastructure sector that could create significant long-term economic benefits for Huu-ay-aht and the region.

Emerging Issues: Key priorities are completing the Framework Project negotiations and governance work, advancing the marine infrastructure pre-feasibility work, and securing the government and funding support required to move both opportunities forward.

Chair of Board of Directors of Huumiis Ventures: In July, as Chair of the Board of Directors for Huumiis Ventures, work continued along the same path established over the previous several months. Leadership, legal counsel, and our partners at Western Forest Products continue to work through the ongoing review of the relationship, structure, and matters affecting the long-term interests of Huumiis Ventures and Huu-ay-aht First Nations.

Overall, this work continues to progress reasonably well. Much of the work remains confidential and cannot be reported on in detail at this stage, but the Board continues to provide oversight and support as discussions and related work move forward.

As Chair, I continue to support Huumiis Ventures through governance and oversight responsibilities, including reviewing and approving expenditures where required, supporting leadership, and helping ensure that the organization continues to work through the appropriate processes with Western Forest Products and legal counsel.

The broader coastal forestry sector continues to experience significant challenges, and these conditions remain an important consideration for Huumiis Ventures. Market conditions, operating pressures, and uncertainty within the coastal forestry sector continue to affect the broader environment in which the business operates. The Board and leadership continue to monitor these challenges closely while remaining focused on protecting Huu-ay-aht's investment and positioning Huumiis Ventures for long-term stability and success.

Overall, Huumiis Ventures continues to move forward through the summer, with the Board maintaining its focus on good governance, appropriate oversight, and protecting Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests.

Emerging Issues: Continued monitoring of coastal forestry conditions and advancement of the ongoing work with Western Forest Products remain the primary areas of focus.

Clean Energy BC (CEBC), Acting Interim Executive Director: In July, I continued serving as Acting Interim Executive Director for Clean Energy BC while maintaining my responsibilities with

Huu-ay-aht. As is typical during the summer months, the overall pace of activity was somewhat slower, with fewer major events and external engagements. However, the organization continued its regular operations and ongoing policy, advocacy, committee, and administrative work.

My focus throughout July remained on providing leadership and continuity for the organization, supporting staff, overseeing day-to-day operations, and helping ensure that priority work continues to move forward during the transition period. This includes supporting internal decision-making, organizational planning, member engagement, financial and administrative oversight, committee coordination, and responding to emerging issues affecting the clean energy sector.

I also continued working with staff and the Board on organizational matters and supporting Clean Energy BC's ongoing transition and operational needs. While the summer period provides a somewhat quieter window, it is also being used to prepare for a busier fall, including upcoming government engagement, advocacy activities, and sector events.

Clean Energy BC continues to remain engaged with government, BC Hydro, regulators, members, First Nations, and other clean energy stakeholders. This role continues to provide Huu-ay-aht with useful exposure to provincial clean energy policy, regulatory developments, procurement planning, and emerging opportunities across the sector.

Government Relations Committee: In July, the Government Relations Committee continued its work on Clean Energy BC's broader advocacy priorities, although the pace of external engagement was somewhat slower during the summer period. Work continued on priorities related to clean electricity development, BC Hydro planning, procurement, Indigenous participation and ownership, transmission and interconnection, affordability, and the policy conditions required to support new clean energy development across British Columbia.

The Committee and staff also continued following the BC Hydro Integrated Resource Plan process and related discussions regarding future electricity supply, system reliability, and the role of battery energy storage and other clean energy resources in meeting growing electricity demand. This remains an important area of work for Clean Energy BC and its members as decisions made through the IRP process will influence future procurement, transmission investment, energy storage opportunities, and the overall direction of the electricity sector.

Preparations are also underway for upcoming advocacy opportunities in the fall, including engagement surrounding UBCM and planned advocacy meetings with government. Clean Energy BC is also preparing for a roundtable with Minister Dix to discuss key issues affecting the clean energy sector and opportunities to support increased clean electricity development in British Columbia.

Participation in this work continues to provide value to Huu-ay-aht by maintaining strong connections to provincial policy discussions, government priorities, BC Hydro planning, and emerging opportunities for First Nations participation in clean energy development.

Permitting & Regulatory Committee: In July, the Permitting & Regulatory Committee continued to focus on the regulatory and permitting challenges that affect the development of clean energy projects across British Columbia. Work continues around improving regulatory clarity, reducing unnecessary delays, strengthening coordination between government agencies and regulators, and ensuring that new clean energy projects can move efficiently through permitting while maintaining appropriate environmental and First Nations requirements.

The Committee also continued to monitor implementation of the evolving regulatory framework for renewable energy projects and the expanding role of the BC Energy Regulator. This includes looking at how new wind, solar, energy storage, and other clean energy projects will move through provincial permitting and how coordination between BCER, other ministries, BC Hydro, First Nations, and federal agencies can be improved.

The Committee's work also remains connected to the broader BC Hydro IRP and electricity planning process, particularly where permitting, transmission, interconnection, and regulatory timelines could affect the ability to bring new generation and battery storage projects online.

As the sector prepares for increased clean energy development over the coming years, the Committee continues to advocate for practical, coordinated, and predictable regulatory processes. This work remains directly relevant to Huu-ay-aht as the Nation advances its own clean energy projects and continues to work with BCER, BC Hydro, provincial ministries, and other regulators.

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 3rd):

- Canada Day
- SeaTwirl Floating Wind Project meeting
- Iskum Investments meeting
- Tax Authority meeting
- Ship recycling Steering Committee meeting

Week two (July 6th to 10th):

- Meeting with Innergex
- Bi-weekly meeting with Economic Development Officer
- Bi-weekly meeting With BlueSky
- Huumiis BoD meeting
- Bi-weekly FramePoint Biweekly meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Edward Johnson
- SeaTwirl Floating Wind Project meeting
- Strategy meeting with Economic development officer
- Executive Council meeting
- Ship recycling team meeting
- Ship recycling Steering Committee meeting
- Tribunal interview meeting
- Meeting with Innergex

Week three (July 13th to 17th):

- Off on leave13-16
- Ship recycling team meeting
- Internal admin meeting
- Meeting with Ministry of Energy and climate solutions

Week four (July 20th to 24th):

- Bi-weekly meeting with Economic Development Officer
- Law and Policy Committee meeting
- Committee of the Whole meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Edward Johnson

- SeaTwirl Floating Wind Project meeting
- Climate change and emergency management meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Brad Johnson
- SeaTwirl Floating Wind Project meeting
- Meeting with Innergex
- Meeting with Tiicma enterprises

Week four (July 27th to 31st):

- FrameWork project meeting
- Legislative amendments meeting
- Coordination meeting
- FrameWork project meeting
- CEBC BoD meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Lands Director
- Ship recycling team meeting
- Tribunal project meeting
- Executive Council meeting
- Ship recycling team meeting

Council Member Nicole Malcomson Report – July 2026

- Participated in regular Executive Council, Committee of the Whole, and portfolio meetings throughout July, met with Chief John Jack and other Council Members to discuss previous work items related to CDC and ask about their portfolios.
- Continued transitioning into the Citizen Development portfolio through meetings with Tech Lead, Executive Director Karen and other portfolio staff.
- Established relationships with regional organizations and community partners to identify opportunities that support Huu-ay-aht priorities.
- Continued reviewing Huu-ay-aht governance legislation, corporate governance documents, and reporting structures to strengthen understanding of Council's oversight responsibilities.
- Responded to citizen inquiries and community concerns while continuing to develop a tracking process to identify recurring themes and emerging issues.

Citizen Development Portfolio

Throughout July I continued meeting with staff to better understand current programs, service delivery, and strategic priorities within the Citizen Development portfolio.

Key activities included:

- Introductory meeting with Evan and Edward to review the history and transition of the Citizen Development portfolio.
- Discussion with Edward regarding FNHA engagement and Huu-ay-aht health contacts.
- Ongoing review of governance legislation, corporate governance documents, and reporting structures and brief discussion with Stephen to explore his portfolio.
- Continued development of a community concerns tracking system to identify recurring themes and emerging issues raised by citizens or partnerships in my personal files for follow up.
- Meetings with Administration and portfolio staff.
- Introduction to Cedric and James through Indigenous Community Policing Program (ICP) discussions to better understand their work and service delivery.
- Registration for the 2026 BC First Nations Provincial Justice Forum to continue expanding knowledge and relationships within justice-related initiatives.

<u>Regional Collaboration and Relationship Building</u>

Treaty and Community Representation

I attended Brad Johnson's Treaty Implementation meeting in my capacity as a Huu-ay-aht citizen, continuing involvement in discussions that remain important to the implementation of modern treaty governance and long-term nation building and additionally, to refine my view as a council member.

July 23rd, 2026, I attended the funeral service of Carla Short from Kyuquot- Che:k'tles7et'h to pay respects to her family and community. Carla was a wife, a mother and a friend known for her contributions to emergency response, Coast Guard Auxiliary service and community support. Having worked alongside her through the Kwiis hen niip Project and BCEHS, it was important to acknowledge her significant contributions and service to coastal communities as a sister community of ours.

FNHA Regional Nuu-chah-nulth Meeting

I attended an in-person FNHA regional meeting in Port Alberni on July 6th, focused on proposed changes to the FNHA voting and governance structure. The session provided valuable insight into current regional health governance discussions and opportunities for continued Huu-ay-aht participation within the 'Nuu-chah-nulth Family Region'. I discussed the form we're asked to fill out with Edward about the relationship between HFN and this proposed work.

Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network

I met with Marcie DeWitt, Coordinator, of the Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network, to better understand the Network's regional priorities and identify opportunities for collaboration between ACHN and Huu-ay-aht, Thanks to Edward for this connection!

Discussion included:

- transportation challenges affecting Bamfield and west coast communities.
- poverty reduction strategies.
- youth engagement initiatives.
- housing and homelessness.
- healthcare recruitment and retention.
- alcohol and substance use strategies.
- community health services.
- regional planning and data resources.

The meeting resulted in several follow-up opportunities, including introductions to regional housing partners, participation in future ACHN meetings, collaboration on healthcare recruitment initiatives, and sharing regional planning resources. Also, the idea of following up on creation of an 'Alcohol Reduction Plan' with Faye Missar Island Health, who are actively supporting development of alcohol strategies. This work is already Current work underway in Port Alberni and Tofino.

Indigenous Community Policing Program and Community Partnerships

I also met with our local representatives from Port Alberni RCMP ICP to strengthen relationships and discuss matters affecting community safety. These conversations support ongoing collaboration between Huu-ay-aht and

Discussion focused on:

- Community Consultative Group (CCG) renewal
  - *Suggested Meeting Sept 16th, 2026*
- Youth safety and prevention initiatives
- Bullying concerns at Bamfield Community School
- Impaired driving
- Alcohol reduction planning
- Homelessness outreach and data collection
- Community reporting and public safety concerns

Notable outcomes included:

- Agreement to re-establish regular CCG meetings, with September identified as a tentative restart.

- Opportunities to partner on youth safety programming, including bicycle, scooter, and helmet education to share with CCG in September.
- RCMP willingness to support future alcohol reduction initiatives and community safety education. re: Alcohol Reduction Plan

Governance Review and Legislative Development

A significant portion of July was dedicated to reviewing Huu-ay-aht governance legislation and corporate governance documents.

This work included reviewing:

- governance responsibilities between Executive Council, Administration, Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses and HFN Development Corporation
- accountability and reporting structures
- legislative authorities
- governance relationships
- opportunities to strengthen clarity within existing legislation.

This review has identified opportunities for ongoing discussion regarding governance modernization, accountability, reporting expectations and maintaining clear roles between governance and operations.

I also participated in my first Committee of the Whole discussions which primarily focused on government relations priorities and strategic initiatives on July 21st, 2026.

Continuing Work from June

BCEHS Community Engagement

The concept of partnering with BCEHS during Huu-ay-aht Days for emergency preparedness education and public awareness remained in the exploratory stage during July. Although planning timelines limited further advancement this month, I remain interested in pursuing future opportunities that promote community emergency preparedness and healthcare career awareness and will reach out to the Indigenous Health Cultural Advisors and Regional Management/Directors for any emerging themes.

FNHA Engagement

Following my introductory engagement in June, I continued building relationships with our Regional Family members throughout July by outreach. These discussions expanded my understanding of regional health planning and identified opportunities for future collaboration in areas including healthcare recruitment, housing, transportation and community wellness and arranged a meeting with Ditidaht's Derek Thompson CDC Portfolio holder.

Community Concerns Tracking

The community concerns tracking process established in June continues to develop but hadn't had much consultation with citizens raised issues but has become a useful tool for identifying recurring issues and informing future Council discussions. I intend to continue refining this process as community engagement expands and as we begin to do community visits and

Looking Ahead

During August I will continue strengthening my understanding of the Citizen Development portfolio while building relationships with Huu-ay-aht citizens, Administration and regional partners and identify new opportunities. I will also continue reviewing governance and legislative material, supporting our council team and identifying opportunities to improve accountability, communication and service delivery for Huu-ay-aht citizens.

Councillor Brad Johnson Executive Council Report – Julu 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: We continue to have meetings with DFO on a regular basis regarding the Incremental Community Economic Fishing Plans (ICEFP). There will be a summer Area G chinook fishery for the second year. This Fishery is offshore and gear specific like in past years, however, we have asked for an earlier opening date, dual fishing and not gear specific. We put the request in as this would really benefit our citizens. Our request has not yet been answered but we are hopeful for some flexibility.

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.

The DFO minister will be in BC near the end of August. The Maa-Nulth-Treaty Society is setting up meetings with leadership to connect with her. The intent of this meeting will be to discuss the full MeToo opportunity.

Wildlife: The Maa-Nulth Wildlife committee met on July 15th, 2026; here are some high-level updates:

- The Wildlife Harvest Plan was sent to the Minister for approval; this is a 5-year plan.
- Nahmint elk heard harvest - UTG to speak to neighboring nations on concerns of heard size.
- The elk translocation that was supposed to take place this year will now happen in 2027 for Toquaht nation. The donor nation is Wei Wai Kum. Timing didn't work with the province and nations for this to take place this year. Elk are specific for season and relocation.
- I have been advocating for our nation to seek extra Elk tags over the past several years. This year our nation paid for extra elk surveys to be done by the province in other areas other than the Klanawa valley. We surveyed the Sarita/ Pachena water shed as I've noticed in past years the herd was growing significantly. My inkling was right and the heard size was surveyed at over 50. When a herd is greater than 50, we can apply to the province for a tag. HFN has applied for an additional elk tag for 2026.
- Elk in Klanawa remains stable and growing in herd size.

Lands and Resources: On July 23rd, 2026, I held a Lands and Resources Committee meeting. We reviewed the land regulation amendments, camping plan policy, compliance and enforcement plan, fisheries restoration and enhancement priorities and associated funding, federal major projects, the West Coast oil pipeline and the Port Desire right of way easement. The committee had great discussions on the land regulation amendments. Overall, they were very satisfied with the outcome and how much easier the document reads with the updated changes. Executive Council had asked me to bring up the Compliance and Enforcement topic and where Hawiih would fit into the process. The committee stated that they would like the process to run through

the administration and that Hawiih would not play a role here. One of my committee members also sits at the Hawiih council table. The committee members made a recommendation to Executive Council to approve the Port Desire right of way/ easement. This will be decided by Executive Council next month. I will be doing a call out for committee members next month.

Treaty Implementation: The Maa-Nulth Treaty Society Board of Directors met on July 13th, 2026, for a special meeting regarding the Major Project announcement of the West Coast Oil Pipeline. This project is being fast tracked by the Federal government. Our Maa-Nulth Domestic Fishing Area is about to become very busy when this project comes into fruition. There is a chance for nations to give feedback and participation funding of $40k is offered to nations. MTS legal council recommended all nations apply for funding so that we can give our feedback before the end of next month.

Gitxaala Intervention: The Maa-Nulth Treaty society, along with the other Modern Treaty Nations of BC, have formed an alliance with the Tlicho Government to apply as an intervenor in this Supreme court case. We feel that it would be very beneficial for the supreme court to hear from Modern Treaty's point of view. This work ties into the UNDRIP/DRIPA work that is happening in BC. Pape Salter Teillet will be leading this work representing the coalition if granted the right to intervene. I brought this topic to the Committee of the Whole to fully brief Executive Council on the decision to move forward with this at a later date future board meeting.

Treaty Implementation Committee met on July 10th, 2026, I gave a very fulsome verbal report for the past 5 months. A lot of updates and questions regarding MeToo Fishery, Bill C -10 and UNDRIP came from the committee. Jillian gave several presentations on looking forward to activities with Government for the remainder of 2026 and moving into 2027.

What we heard from the people's assembly booth in 2025/ Proposed 2026 peoples assembly engagement and an Overview of the recent citizen survey on Economic development. This meeting went very well with the committee engaging and asking more about Major projects and UNDRIP. I will be working with Jillian to create a slide deck on these two topics for next meeting. Overall, this a productive meeting, probably the best Treaty Implementation meeting I have had since becoming the chair. Next meeting will be either late September or early October. I will be doing a call out for committee members in the next month.

Parks Canada: The West Coast Trail Management Planning working group met on July 7th, 2026. We approved the draft public and interest holder engagement and consultation report. We reviewed the draft web version of what we heard report, discussed what the feedback was from these reports and how it will be shared on Pacific Rim National Park Reserve website. Parks Canada is committed to Indigenous Stewardship and very much value the Guardians on the WCT for the safety, maintenance and for the cultural aspect they bring. This is the key messaging that we heard from Parks Canada. The public also commented that the Guardian programs are a key element to the experience of the WCT. We are now focused on working on the last phase of the draft objective and targets for our working group. The Long Beach unit and Broken group working groups are a few stages behind our working group, but we will hope to meet for an all nations meeting in the beginning of 2027.

National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCAR) - Parks Canada has mentioned 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.

On July 28th we had a request from Parks Canada to lift the campfire ban on the West Coast Trail. The weather at the time was extremely rainy and hikers were soaking wet needing a fire to warm up. After conversations with our staff, we declined the request due to the fact the Province still has a fire ban imposed and we would like to be consistent with what the province does so we have clarity to our citizens that we follow suit with the Province.

HR Workplace and Wellness: No official committee meetings were called. I am updated of all HR concerns within the administration as I am the chair of the committee. These updates come directly from the Executive Director and are kept confidential.

The Bamfield Road: On July 14th, 2026 the Minister of Transportation Mike Farnworth met with Councillor Edward Johnson and I at the Anacla Government office. At this meeting we discussed the importance of the road for our citizens and the Bamfield community. We reminded him that the re surfacing of the road was to do with safety and that Huu-ay-aht contributed 10 million dollars of our nation's money into this 49-million-dollar project. We would like to see the road redesignated and that would also protect our investment, so overall maintenance is done by the province. As of today, the road is still recognized as an industrial road that is maintained by the two logging companies.

We also spoke about the two wildfires that occurred in past years and how paving an alternate route would be very beneficial for safety reasons. Overall, it was a great meeting, we reestablished the Bamfield road working group with the province so we can further advocate for the redesignation to happen. The road remains in good condition with the maintenance crews solving road repair issues when needed. The weather this time of year is perfect for surface patches, so they are done more frequently in a timely manner. With camping season in full swing, the road has a lot of traffic daily heading to the region, please drive with caution.

List of meetings attended:

-Maa Nulth Marine Strategic Planning Working Group
-Maa Nulth Legislative Engagements
-Maa Nulth ROA TAG
-Maa Nulth West Coast Oil Pipeline Project
-Maa Nulth ECHO Swiftsure Bank Slowdown zone meetings Bi weekly
-Maa Nulth Fisheries committee
-Maa Nulth Wildlife Council meeting
-Maa Nulth Special BOD/ Regular BOD meetings
-Ship Decommissioning Project meetings weekly
-PBC lease meetings internal
-WCT Management planning
-HFN/Frame point meeting
-Executive Council meetings
-Committee of the Whole
-Treaty Implementation Committee meeting
-Lands and Resources Committee meeting
-Bi weekly meetings with Councilor Stephen Rayner
-Bi weekly meetings with Lands Director
-Executive Director check in meeting
-Bamfield Road meetings with Minister Farnworth
-Iskum Shareholders meeting
-Sarita Elk Harvest internal meeting/ Meeting with BC wildlife
-FSC Fraser Sockeye update meeting with DFO

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. I took 4 days off for annual leave this month to spend some time with my family during the summer break. I am pleased to represent our Nation as a member of the Executive Council.