huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

Executive Council Report
August 2026

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August 2026 Executive Council Highlights

Nation Highlights
- Continued advancement of major economic development initiatives, including the FORUM Framework Plan and marine infrastructure opportunities.
- Ongoing focus on Bamfield Road safety, housing and infrastructure improvements, and community wellness investments.
- Progress on repatriation efforts to bring Huu-ay-aht cultural treasures home.

Chief Councillor John Jack
- Represented modern treaty nations in provincial DRIPA discussions and advanced government relations with provincial and federal partners.
- Supported key priorities including economic development, community safety planning, and the FORUM Framework initiative.

Ha'wiih Representative Theresa Nookemus
- Continued strengthening Ha'wiih governance, mentoring new Ha'wiih members, and reinforcing cultural protocols.
- Led a delegation to Ottawa to view Huu-ay-aht treasures and advance artifact repatriation efforts.

Deputy-Chief Councillor Edward Johnson
- Advanced major housing and infrastructure projects, including House of Huu-ay-aht and Cultural Visitor Centre improvements.
- Progressed childcare, family wellness, and CHRT funding initiatives while advocating for Bamfield Road safety improvements.

Councillor Brad Johnson
- Advanced fisheries opportunities, including Chinook and potential Chum economic fisheries for citizens.
- Secured additional elk hunting opportunities and continued cultural site protection and stewardship work.

Councillor Evan Cook
- Reported a year-to-date financial surplus and improved financial reporting transparency for citizens.
- Supported innovative housing and economic development opportunities, including the Stackabl housing project and value-added forestry initiatives.

Councillor Stephen Rayner
- Advanced clean energy projects, including the SeaTwirl offshore wind initiative and completion of the Anacla solar project.
- Continued leading major economic development work through the Framework Planning Project and marine infrastructure initiative.

Councillor Nicole Malcolmson
- Strengthened partnerships with regional health, justice, and community organizations.
- Focused on community safety, governance review, and improving accountability and service delivery for citizens.

- **Chief-Councillor John Jack Report – August 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

August began with offices being closed for the statutory holiday on the Monday. I did travel to Vancouver on this day for an important announcement forestry announcement happening the next day, returning on the Tuesday. The following day was met with an HFNDC meeting in the morning, followed by an in-person special Executive Council meeting in the afternoon in Parksville. Thursday began with a meeting with our federal government relations firm first thing in the morning followed by finishing off the week with a two-day Community Safety Planning Session in Port Alberni.

Week Two

Monday the 10th started off with a virtual emergency management meeting with Public Safety Canada and ISC with a small break for lunch before joining another virtual working group meeting between HFN and HGB and finally ending the day with my weekly touchbase with the chair of the HGB Board – Larry Johnson. On Tuesday, I had a preparatory meeting with our in-house government relations advisor to prepare for the upcoming Victoria Forum of which I had been asked to be a part of the speaker panel. Wednesday was another full day of meetings starting off with my biweekly connect with our provincial GR firm, then my biweekly with our Economic Development Officer in the morning, and an informal meeting touchbase with FORUM in the afternoon, ending the day with a meeting with Mosaic. On Thursday, August 13th, I was in Anacla to attend and say a few words at the graduation celebration for all our youth who recently graduated from High School and Post Secondary. The week ended with the nation's annual Huu-ay-aht Days event on Friday and Saturday, with my family joining in on the fun and activities on the Saturday.

Week Three

The Monday started off with having to attend to family matters in the AM, followed by my biweekly bilat meeting with Councillor Edward Johnson, a meeting with our provincial GR firm and finally my weekly bilateral with Larry Johnson ending off the day. The Tuesday was consumed with an all day Committee of the Whole Meeting, followed by more meetings on the Wednesday to prepare for the upcoming Victoria FORUM and a meeting with our federal government relations firm. My week was shortened this week as I did take two days of annual leave on the Thursday and Friday to do some camping with the family.

Week Four

The Monday, August 24th started off with my biweekly bilat with Councillor Nicole Malcolmson, followed by a meeting to review the agenda for the upcoming Executive Council meeting before heading to Victoria to speak at the Victoria Forum. On Tuesday, an Economic Development Committee meeting was held in the morning, followed by an HFNDC meeting in the afternoon. On

Wednesday, I once again met with our political GR from before making my way to Vancouver for an all-day Political Advisory Table meeting with BC on DRIPA on the Thursday. Due to the conflict in scheduling, I was unable to attend the entire Executive Council meeting on Thursday and had Deputy-Chief Edward Johnson chair. On Friday, I attended a Law and Policy meeting in the morning, followed by an afternoon meeting with HFN/HGB CEO and the HGB board.

Week Five

On Monday, August 31st I took annual leave to spend time with my family before they had back to school but did attend an important, in-person meeting in the afternoon in Port Alberni.

Portfolio Related Work

Economic Development – Progress Report and Emerging Issues

An Economic Development Committee meeting was held on August 25th, followed by an HFNDC meeting in the afternoon. On August 28th, HFN met with the HGB operating board and CEO to discuss the FORUM Framework plan.

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 again 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 – August 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.

Four Ha'wiih members made a trip to Ottawa Aug 19-21 to see our Ancestors Artifacts. It was truly an amazing trip!

Those that went were our Ha'wiih Clerk, Janet Young - who was vital in keeping us safe, organized and having a worry-free travel trip - a big Tlecko cha ma ta to MissYoung! Olivia Peters, Sherri Cook, Phyllis Williams and Theresa Nookemus were the 4 Ha'wiih to make the trip along with Victoria Williams an upcoming Ha'wiih, Saryta Cook, and Benson Nookemus.
An elder from an Ottawa tribe met us at the museum for introductions and smudging before we went to see said artifacts. After the tour and lunch with Museum staff of the museum, we made it

downstairs for a private showing of our Huu-ay-aht artifacts. We asked the elder to bless and smudge our Huu-ay-aht artefacts before they went back into storage. We were fortunate to meet with many museum curators who will be working alongside Ha'wiih to better understand what is needed for the safekeeping and protection of these precious pieces when they come home.

Nananiiqsu Society:

This society will reconvene in the fall of 2026.

Alliance of BC Modern Treaty:

Alliance Administration:

• On July 8, a special meeting of the ABCMTN Holding Society Members was held to appoint a new Director to the Board. Cynthia Blackstone, CAO, Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Chek'tles7et'h' First Nations was appointed.
• The Board of Directors is scheduled to meet on August 5th to review first quarter financial statements.
• The Alliance received quotes from 50th Parallel PR to host two workshops that align with goals leaders identified in the Alliance Strategic Plan. The Alliance ED is involved in the design and development of these workshops. AMC members will confirm MTN interest and participation in August. Intention is to hold workshop 1 late mid to late November.
- Workshop 1 - develop a governance structure around the issuance of collective communications
- Workshop 2 - media training for leadership

• Alliance staff and AMC members completed a final review of the new Alliance website. The website is scheduled to launch in mid-August and will provide the public with improved information about MTNs, including links to each Nation's website. We will continue to develop the resources section of the website throughout the fiscal year with funding received from CIRNAC.

Premier's Forum 2026 Follow-up:

MTN leaders met in July to gather feedback on the event and identify any changes leaders would like to see in the future. An initial discussion was also held on potential hosts for the 2027 Premier's Forum. Ideally, a host for next year will be confirmed in the coming months.

Alliance staff met with MIRR to debrief on lessons learned from this year's event and confirm a shared understanding of commitments made by BC, both at the Forum and during the day 2 technical debrief. Action leads have been identified for all commitments, and a workplan is being developed to determine next steps.

In support of the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy, the Indigenous Justice Secretariat (IJS) is leading the development of a training session about modern treaties for the justice sector, including the Ministry of Attorney General, Public Safety and Solicitor General, and the Youth Justice Branch at MCFD. The Alliance ED is co-developing a virtual presentation with MIRR that will be delivered early October.

The presentation will be recorded and made available through internal government networks. This workshop is a part of a series of training sessions. The Alliance ED is working with the IJS ADM to ensure the modern treaty context is included in all sessions. AMC members will have the opportunity to review the materials and provide feedback in late August.

Property Transfer Tax:

MTNs have begun discussions with the Ministry of Finance (FIN) on the possibility of a treaty property transfer tax (PTT) benefit. Representatives supporting First Nations in advanced treaty negotiations are also at the table to avoid parallel discussions. Regular meetings will begin in September and occur every six weeks.

The WG met in July to: discuss FIN's response to a discussion paper MTNs submitted in February; outline the current context of the PTT benefit and discuss potential new approaches; discuss interests; and determine actions for all parties in preparation for upcoming meetings.

Note: This file is subject to confidentiality and further details cannot be shared here.

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 rough draft of the policy and shared it with BC for discussion at the June WG meeting. Throughout July, BC has been working on revising the draft and MTNs have been developing a list of issues we seek to resolve through the use of the policy. The next WG meeting will be held early August.

Meetings will move to a bi-weekly schedule beginning September 17.

Boundary Issues Resolution:

MIRR met with MTN representatives late June following repeated requests from the Alliance for MTN involvement in initiatives related to DRIPA action 1.01, aimed at establishing a new institution to support First Nations in resolving boundary issues.

BC confirmed that the FNLC has been funded to develop a toolkit to support FNs interested in addressing boundary issues. MTNs made it clear that they have interests that must be considered by their treaty partners and that this work cannot proceed without their involvement.

BC advised they will be starting work this summer/early fall to develop policy around Crown conduct. Letters from the Minister to all FNs and MNTs outlining engagement opportunities are expected in early August.

The FNLC consultant leading development of the toolkit will brief MTNs on the work completed to date on August 11. Regular meetings with BC will commence on September 10 to engage in the development of policy.

MTN reps caucused in July to begin to articulate a collective position and identify shared priorities, supported by a memo prepared by Nisga'a legal counsel to guide the initial discussion. The key message: BC has legal treaty obligations and must be involved in the resolution of any boundary disputes that may impact MTNs or modern treaty rights.

Declaration Act (DRIPA) Review:

BC is working with First Nations to identify a path forward for DRIPA that addresses legal risks arising from the Gitxaala decision. 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 First Nation organizations and leaders representing diverse rights and interests. Chief John Jack was appointed as the Alliance representative, with technical support from the Alliance ED and Brent Lehman legal counsel for the Maa-nulth Treaty Society. The Alliance is holding weekly caucus meetings (Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) to provide updates to MTN representatives and gather their input.

MTN leaders and technicians were invited to a virtual session on July 10 with the facilitators to introduce the review process, discuss key MTN priorities, and provide an overview of the proposed engagement approach.

Alliance representatives on the Political Advisory Table (PAT) attended a two-day in-person meeting in Vancouver in mid-July to discuss various solutions proposed to date. These proposals were summarized in a report to MTNs. The facilitators identified the need for additional meetings with a Policy Support Committee composed of technical and legal experts supporting the political representatives to begin to flush out a framework to address BC's perceived legal issues and the interests of FNs. The first of these meetings took place on July 31 and August 4th.

No further meetings have been scheduled to date. The facilitators indicated they need to sit with BC to see what is workable before putting pen to paper to outline a framework for discussion with the PAT.
• Note: This file is subject to confidentiality and further details cannot be shared here.

Ministry of Attorney General (MAG)
Enforcement of MTN Laws:
MTNs and MAG have continued advancing work to enable BC Courts to prosecute offences under MTN laws, as contemplated by all modern treaties. BC confirmed the Request for Decision (RFD) has been approved by Cabinet.

A small subgroup of MTN legal counsel and MAG lawyers is co-developing a Request for Legislation (RFL) which includes a line-by-line review of the Offense Act. The broader working group received a progress update from the subgroup in July. MAG expressed their gratitude for the collaborative nature of the work and articulated the value of having each MTN represented in the subgroup, which will ensure the framework and recommendations developed will work with each of the MTN's laws.
• Note: This file is subject to confidentiality and further details cannot be shared here.

Ministry of Waters, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS)
Natural Resource Permitting:

MTNs continue to meet regularly with WLRS on an initiative to reform several permitting processes within the natural resource sector. This is a broad, long-term engagement with a target completion date of early 2028.

The WG met in June to discuss areas of the Water Sustainability Act and related regulations that may benefit from greater clarity regarding their application to MTNs. MTN representatives provided feedback for a collective submission that was provided to WLRS at the end of July.

A walkthrough of the consultation draft is scheduled for August. The deadline for feedback on the proposed amendments is the end of August.

MTNs were invited to information sessions in July on two new initiatives under this broader project:

Wetlands Initiatives – Proposed changes and updates to several policy and guidance documents related to wetlands management were presented. The WLRS WG will discuss these initiatives at its next caucus meeting. Given their low priority, no collective action is currently anticipated.

Natural Resource Appeals Tribunal Process – WLRS presented proposed changes to the Environmental Appeal Board and Forest Appeals Commission processes. The WLRS WG will discuss these initiatives at its next caucus meeting. No collective action is currently anticipated, as no impact to MTNs have been identified.

• Note: This file is subject to confidentiality and further details cannot be shared here.

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 July, MTNs provided feedback on policy and procedural documents intended to guide proponents, First Nations, and EAO staff through these processes, including EAO's proposed roles and responsibilities.

The WG also received a consultative draft of amended regulations for dispute resolution facilitators. Feedback was provided in writing and discussed during the July meeting.

The next phase of the review is expected to focus on the Participating Indigenous Nation Framework, beginning in August.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG)
Community Safety Officer Framework: Policing and Public Safety Modernization (PPSM):

MTN representatives attended an information session with PSSG to receive an update on the development of a Community Safety Officer Framework for First Nations, municipalities, and MTNs (if interested).

As currently proposed, the framework does not provide any additional benefits for MTNs beyond those already contemplated in treaties. In addition, these new categories of officers would need to

be fully self-funded, as BC is not offering any funding for these positions. MTN representatives caucused following the information session and did not identify the initiative as a priority for collective involvement.

As a result, the Alliance does not anticipate being involved in this project.

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 included:

Natural Resource Appeals Tribunal Process – MTNs were invited to attend an information session hosted by WLRS on proposed changes to the Environmental Appeal Board and Forest Appeals Commission processes. Changes under consideration include updates to appeal procedures and the collection of monetary penalties. The information session took place at the end of July. The WLRS WG will discuss any potential actions at an August meeting.

Strengthening BC Social Services – Nations were invited to an information session introducing a new cross-ministry initiative led by MCFD aimed at improving coordination of social services and reducing systemic barriers to accessing government programs.

BC is preparing targeted follow-up questions for Nations to better understand MTN government interactions with provincial social programs and MTN citizens' experiences. The ERWG will review the material and consider whether collective feedback is warranted once it is received.

BCTS Review Implementation – BC Timber Sales sent invitations to MTNs for information sessions outlining proposed regulatory amendments related to the Forest Statutes Amendment Act. Proposed amendments could include changes to how BCTS revenues may be spent, the introduction of new monetary penalties, and authority on different types of investments. Information sessions are scheduled for August, and ERWG members will review the initiative in September.

BC College of Nurses & Midwives – BC Health Regulators forwarded an engagement request from the BC College of Nurses & Midwives, which is seeking feedback on a proposed bylaw amendment to establish an Indigenous Strategic Review Committee. The ERWG determined this was a low priority and recommended no collective action.

Taxi and Ride-Hail Regulation Amendments – MTNs received an email from the Ministry of Transportation and Transit outlining proposed changes for the next phase of amendments to the Passenger Transportation Regulation. Potential changes include enabling online taxi bookings and payments, expanding the Registrar's administrative authority, and simplifying licensing processes. The ERWG determined that bilateral engagement would be the most appropriate approach for this initiative.

Persons with Disabilities Benefit Alignment – The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction sent letters to Nations offering to begin discussions on potential ways to streamline provincial disability benefit applications for citizens already receiving social benefits from an MTN government. Some MTN governments already have bilateral meetings scheduled with SDPR, while others requested additional time for internal discussions on potential next steps. ERWG

members will revisit the initiative in August to determine whether any collective action or support would be beneficial.

FEDERAL INITIATIVES:

Fisheries: Salmon Allocation Policy Review:

Anita Blakley of LGL has been representing MTNs on the work to update DFO's Salmon Allocation Policy. Updates and requests for MTN input are provided through Fisheries WG
On June 18, DFO advised the FN-DFO Committee that the FN Supplementary Report (which was a document included in the package to the Minister from the Multi-Party Working Group) was distributed to reps from the commercial and recreational sectors. This report was intended to be shared only with DFO. This incident reinforces broader concerns and challenges in MTN relations with DFO.

In response, DFO contacted all parties involved in the MPWG process and requested that any unauthorized copies be deleted and that no further distribution occur. To the best of our knowledge, no further action was taken.

A letter to the Minister was drafted to request this problematic breach of confidentiality be addressed, emphasizing DFO's obligation to uphold the honor of the Crown in all dealings with MTNs. The letter, which will be signed by the leaders of all 8 MTNs, is currently out for approval.

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.

CIRNAC has advised that the next draft of the Guidelines is expected to be shared in August. The Alliance will review the draft to assess whether MTN concerns raised in a collective letter submitted in May have been adequately addressed.

The Alliance ED secured additional funding from CIRNAC to cover costs incurred this fiscal year.

Canadian Museum of History Visit

August 2026 | Gatineau, Quebec

Ha'wiih representatives travelled to the Canadian Museum of History to view Huu-ay-aht treasures identified for repatriation. The visit also provided an opportunity to continue discussions with museum representatives about the next steps in the repatriation process.



Viewing the Treasures

Ha’wiih privately viewed 15 Huu-ay-aht treasures currently in the care of the Canadian Museum of History.

The visit provided an opportunity to reconnect with Huu-ay-aht belongings and learn more about their history, condition, and care.





Meetings and Discussions

The visit began with a welcome from Algonquin Elder McGregor.

Ha’wiih then met with museum staff and leadership across departments to discuss conservation considerations, custodial arrangements, and the archival records of our treasures.









Looking Ahead

The visit marked another important milestone in our repatriation journey. Discussions will continue as planning progresses for the eventual return of our treasures to Huu-ay-aht territory and their care within the future Huu-ay-aht Cultural Centre.



Councillor ƛicitaṯ Edward R. Johnson - August 2026
https://huuayaht.org/councillor-edward-r-johnson/

Area of Responsibility:
Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure
Children and Family Wellness Committee
Citizenship Committee
Deputy-Chief Councillor

Community Planning Committee and Infrastructure

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

- Called a Wellness Complex Discussion. This was a good meeting with good outcomes and next steps.
- Biweekly meeting with Director of Infrastructure & Capital Projects Infrastructure.
- Meeting with Director of Infrastructure.
- HOH roof should be completed by September.
- Our storage building was broken into. We are looking forward to hearing back on how we can prevent this from happening again.
- Future Housing Needs Discussion meetings.
- Staff are going through training and plans for courses.
- Cultural Visitor Center – Siding is nearing completion and window trim. Information is being shared through the infrastructure department regarding concrete walls retaining walls, railings, etc. and looking for feedback from community members.
- Received information from John Doolan at the Committee of the Whole meeting in regards to the Framework Plan.
- Looking to schedule a committee meeting the first week of September now that we have committee members assigned.
- Had a conversation with Director of Infrastructure on SOI standing offer index and seeing if we can be a part of having the opportunity to purchase.
- Looking to set up an internal meeting to talk about the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal work that we are doing in regard to the Visitor Centre and to tackle outstanding items to complete the feasibility.
- Networking with our housing manager in regard to applications for grants and looking at strategies and project management to contractor coordination and community training and networking the Baker Brothers Strategic Partnerships.

Summary: 2026 BC First Nations Housing Forums Report

The BC First Nations Housing Managers Association (BCFNHMA), in partnership with the First Nations Housing and Infrastructure Council (FNHIC), hosted four Regional Housing Forums in Nanaimo, Chilliwack, Kelowna, and Prince George. The forums brought together housing managers, leadership, government representatives, service providers, and industry partners to share knowledge, discuss challenges, and identify practical solutions for strengthening First Nations housing across British Columbia. A total of 305 participants attended, reflecting significant growth in engagement compared to 2025. [2026 BC Fi...rum Report | PDF]

Key Themes

1. Funding Challenges and Opportunities
2. Well-Being of Housing Managers and Communities
3. Energy Efficiency and Building Standards
4. Housing Pressures and Capacity Constraints

Overall Conclusions

The forums highlighted both the complexity of housing management and the resilience of First Nations housing professionals. Although communities continue to face significant funding, capacity, and infrastructure challenges, participants demonstrated strong commitment, innovation, and collaboration. Key priorities moving forward include:

- Better coordination and access to funding.
- Increased training and operational capacity.
- Practical tools and resources for housing managers.
- Continued opportunities for networking, mentorship, and knowledge sharing.

The 2026 forums reinforced that housing managers are central to improving housing outcomes in First Nations communities and that ongoing support, collaboration, and investment are essential to their success attend this form with our HFN Housing Manager

Children and Family Wellness Committee

- Biweekly meeting with our table agreement internal update meeting and getting our ducks in a row regarding overlapping funding with Canadian human rights tribunal and early learning childcare facility funding for design. We are looking to meet with the BCACCS regarding the feasibility completion of early learning childcare center and hopefully submitting design phase in the coming weeks. We are working with an external law firm law firm to complete applications CHRT-41/BCACCS.
- Biweekly meeting with Director of Child and Family Wellness.
- AOPSI meeting – I will be giving an update at the All Chiefs meeting next month.
- Attended an event in Nanaimo - the Nuu-chah-nulth Children's honouring feast with KL.
- Meeting with MCFD to go over the Overview of the Phase 2 work of the Working Group process, discussions, areas of alignment and recommendations and did a walkthrough of the June 11, 2026 Working Group Update and Next Steps document. Discussion followed regarding next steps (Identified in document) and am looking to bring to COW for next steps.
- Internal update HFN team meeting on coordination table and BC table. We had an overall update on CFW CHRT and CFS Needs Assessment updates, covering off what needs to be added to the needs budget like the wellness center, OMC update and YCFWA. We are looking to set an SMT meeting regarding the CHRT stuff and what is outstanding before sending back to ISC.

Deputy-Chief Councillor

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

- Attended Huu-ay-aht Days.

- Attended HFN/HGB meeting on Forum where I chaired 1/2 the meeting.
- Biweekly Bilat John/Edward.
- Weekly bilat meeting with our HFN Executive Director.
- EC Agenda Review meeting.
- Chaired COW meeting.
- Met with our provincial government relations firm, Framepoint, where we discussed who we will be meeting with at the UBCM.
- Attended the Tlu-piich games.
- Attended Community Safety Regulation Discussion Meeting in Nanaimo.
- Attended Summer Student Farewell Lunch.
- Attended Iskum announcement.
- Attended Nuuc-hah-nulth games
- Weekly bilat with our HFN EDO
- Attended SHBC Demo house soft-opening. It was truly an honor to be part of such a meaningful milestone for Stackabl. The launch was a wonderful day filled with optimism, shared purpose, and a clear vision for the future. We were fortunate to enjoy good company, good food, and most importantly, the great friendships that have been built throughout this journey. These connections are what make projects like this so special.
- Bamfield Road mapping - media release that Infrastructure was looking to do on the Bamfield Road mapping project
- **Meeting with Mosaic** - The meeting with Mosaic focused on introductions, updates from both Mosaic and HFN, and discussions regarding the Bamfield Road corridor. We reviewed a map of Mosaic-owned lands and discussed road maintenance, infrastructure concerns, and the existing road use agreement. Mosaic noted that discussions with the Province appear to have paused over the summer. They reiterated their position regarding the fair market value of the road and highlighted several ongoing concerns. Mosaic owns approximately 17 kilometres of the road and has maintained a road use agreement since the 1960s, which has recently been renewed on a six-month basis.
  A significant topic of discussion was the China Creek Bridge, which Mosaic identified as being in critical need of replacement. Mosaic's position is that the Province should assume responsibility for the 17-kilometre section of road through redesignation and provide funding for replacement of the China Creek Bridge at fair market value. Mosaic indicated they intend to reconvene discussions with the Province following the fourth quarter.

  At the conclusion of the meeting, I reiterated the importance of safety for everyone who travels the road and emphasized the need to protect our investment through redesignation of the corridor as a public road. Proper designation would support access to stable funding, improve safety standards, and ensure the long-term protection of this critical transportation corridor.

  Following extensive discussion, we referenced recommendations outlined in the **Bamfield Main Identified Maintenance Issues for Repair (China Creek)** report. There is substantial documentation indicating that the bridge is approximately 40 years old and has reached the end of its expected service life. The financial implications and potential community impacts associated with the bridge are significant. As a critical lifeline for the community, addressing the bridge's condition should be a priority.

  While previous recommendations have focused on repairs and measures to extend the bridge's lifespan, I believe weight restrictions may be required sooner rather than later to ensure the safety of all road users. The risks associated with delaying action continue to increase as the structure ages.

During the meeting, I also spoke about the many years of advocacy surrounding the condition of the road and why these discussions are taking place today. The losses experienced on this corridor have had a profound impact on our community. It is important that the years of advocacy and the voices of community members are heard before another tragic accident occurs. I stressed that community safety must remain the primary priority, and that redesignation of the road is essential to protecting this investment for future generations.

A comprehensive review of bridge structures and settlement issues at bridge approaches is required to achieve long-term stability and ensure the continued safe use of the corridor.

Citizenship Committee

Progress on Achieving Key Initiatives

Citizenship and Treaty Enrollment are held every first Wednesday of the month. By HFN Law this committee meets once a month to review Treaty Enrollment Applications and review of Citizenship Applications https://huuayaht.org/services/citizenship/

Councillor Brad Johnson Executive Council Report – August 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
Citizenship Committee Member

Fisheries: We successfully negotiated the Incremental Community Economic Fishing Plan, for the summer AABM chinook fishery in area G. This will be an offshore fishery with the start Date of August 10th, 2026. Maa-Nulth's Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is 4461 pieces. This fishery will be open until the 15TH of September and will be closed after that because of the steelhead conservation.

The Huu-ay-aht team continue 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.

Preparations for the 2026 Sarita Chinook Economic Fishery are underway. The proposed commercial fishery will start in the first week of September. This depends on whether the salmon will have entered the river along with rain and water levels. Citizens should be available between September 2nd -18th for fish days. Be sure to contact the Lands and Resources team to sign up to participate and for more information.

On August 27th Maa-Nulth leadership met with the DFO Minister Joanne Thompson and her team. This day started at 6 am leaving Port Alberni by boat heading to Secret Beach to pick up the group. We then boated around Toquaht territory with intentions of driving past Ucluelet and over to Bamfield but due to weather being a bit rough and foggy I suggested we tour the Broken Group Islands where it's protected and calmer waters. We spent roughly an hour touring and speaking with the Minister and her team on how we can move this MeToo Fishery forward. We spoke about our asks and the budget submission that is necessary for this to move forward to purchasing licenses. We expressed our concerns that we would like flexibility with the pilot fishery and that dual fishing is a must for our citizens. Overall, it was a successful meeting, more of relationship building than anything else, but these are the steps needed to move forward. In the future, I would not recommend a meeting on a boat as it's very hard to hear one another and to not having several conversations happening at once.

Wildlife: On August 20, 2026 we received confirmation from BC that Huu-ay-aht First Nations will receive 3 tags from the province for elk. The 2 tags are for the Klanawa watershed; one tag is for a bull the other is for a cow. We received a new tag this year for the Sarita/Pachena watershed for a bull. The Lands and Resources department had a draw for the 2 tags for citizens. The new tag is being held at the moment as I would like to see the Warriors program utilize this tag as a learning opportunity for our youth citizens.

The department is working out the logistics and what this may look like and finding someone who is willing to take a group of youth out for this hunt. I am very pleased this is happening as this has been my vision for many years to access another tag for our citizens and youth.

Lands and Resources: The lands department has identified sites for the cultural site protection protocol (CSPP) based on engagement with Ha'wiih and generally within the department. The next step is to work with the province on mapping to ensure the areas we want to protect are accurate. Our HFN guardians are performing daily maintenance on the West Coast Trail and being ambassadors for the Nation in our territory. Two crews have been alternating throughout the season. We had a successful summer with our youth program and I'm happy to see our youth interested in working for our nation within all departments.

Treaty Implementation: No Maa-Nulth-Board of Directors meeting was called due to a major projects meeting replacing its time and space. The West Coast Oil pipeline and the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 took precedence for this time with leadership. The Federal Government and the Major Projects Office (MPO) have launched a consultation process to consider whether the West Coast Oil pipeline project and the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 project should be listed as a national interest project under the Build Canada Act (BCA). In deciding whether to list the project, the Government may consider, among other things, the extent to which the project can make the following national interest determination factors:

Factor 1) strengthen Canada's economy resiliency and security,
Factor 2) provide economic or other benefits to Canada,
Factor 3) to have a high likelihood of successful execution,
Factor 4) advance the interests of Indigenous People, and lastly
Factor 5) contribute to clean growth and to Canada's objectives with respect climate change.

Parks Canada: I received notice on the last day of the month from Parks Canada that BC will be rescinding the campfire ban on September 3rd, 2026, at noon. As I mentioned in my last report, Huu-ay-aht First Nations are in line and follows all Provincial fire bans and lifts to stay consistent with the province. We have had a very damp summer in Anacla and on the West Coast Trail this year. The data collected from the weather station at Camp Ross shows that the area was cool with temperatures with the fire danger remaining low the majority of the season due to marine influenced weather like fog.

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.

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. I reviewed 4 complaints this month with the Executive Director; recommendations were agreed upon and that work is moving forward.

Special Project - Bamfield Road: The road remains in good condition with the maintenance crews resolving 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.

On August 12th, 2026, we held a meeting with Mosaic to discuss the road. Last month we met with the Minister of Transportation about Huu-ay-aht wanting to see the road redesignated and Mosaic took note of that and requested a meeting to discuss essentially how that meeting went with the Province. Mosaic owns 17 km of the road but it's not consecutively all in one spot, its broken up into several parcels. Currently the road is still designated as an industrial road, but both Mosaic and Huu-ay-aht recognize that most of the traffic is community members of Bamfield or visitors to the region. We would like to see the investment that the province and Nation made into the road protected so that the upkeep and maintenance is sufficient and up to provincial standards. Mosaic recognizes that parts of the road owned by them are going to need major repairs in the near future and one spot identified is the bridge at China Creek. Overall, it was a productive meeting, we met new members of the Mosaic team and keep building our relationship with them. The main takeaway from the meeting is how can Huu-ay-aht , Mosaic and the Province work together to protect the investment of the Bamfield road. More meetings will be held soon to create a plan about redesignation of this important road.

Citizenship Committee: On August 25th I attended my first Citizenship Committee meeting. This committee was restructured last month by the new chair Edward Johnson. We discussed citizenship and treaty enrolment act, the code of conduct and we took the Huu-ay-aht oath. This committee meets once and month and I am happy to join this very active committee for our nation.

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 and go fishing during the summer break. I am pleased to represent our Nation as a member of the Executive Council.

Councillor Evan Cook Report – August 2026

Finance Report

The finance committee met on August 25, 2026.

So far, the current year to date continuously shows an overall surplus on our operating and capital funds. The financial team is doing a excellent job in cash management and accounts receivable and payable. The chief financial officer has created a new Table and Chart to show Actual and Budget spending; this will make it much easier for citizens to understand financial accounting and reporting, and also to monitor quarterly reports.

As per the request for more information and transparency for Minors Trust Funds, from last year's Assembly by the citizens, a template for the annual statements for minor citizens held by the nation has been completed. The data file we have on accounting doesn't currently have the names and guardians of the minors. The finance team will gather the information in the coming months and enter all the information into the data collection.

Economic Development

<u>Prefabricated Home Project Soft Opening</u>

The recent soft opening of Stackabl's prefabricated home at Port Renfrew was a great success and represents an important milestone in our efforts to advance innovative, efficient, and locally focused housing solutions.

The successful erection of the display home demonstrated what can be accomplished when the right people, skills, and organizations work together. The project also provided an opportunity to see firsthand the quality, efficiency, and potential of prefabricated construction. Most importantly, this achievement gives us a strong foundation for exploring how prefabricated housing can contribute to addressing housing needs and creating economic opportunities in our communities. Thank you to everyone involved, especially the construction and installation crews, your teamwork made this success possible, and we look forward to building on this accomplishment together.

<u>Value Added Forestry - HFN and DicinFoam</u>

Recently the Bio degradable Styrofoam company started by Wet'suwet'en First Nations Economic Development corporation with UBC developing the technology, has had some media coverage and broadcasted by BC local TV stations and UBC news. The reason I mention this is because we were receiving media queries regarding the project and our involvement. We are still being kept in the loop by Yinka Dene Economic Development LP(YLP) management on the status of this project, which is in the Pilot Project phase. The company has high interest in setting up a plant in Port Alberni if the Pilot Project proves successful and the concept of the technology is verified. YLP will provide HFN first opportunity if HFN desires to create a manufacturing facility. This would also align with a "Smart Wood Products Campus".

Community Safety Plan

The core safety group have had discussions on creating a plan for the future, where all our citizens are safe, healthy, respected, and connected to culture, language, land and one another. We are all working towards building a strong, self-reliant nation, where Elders are honored, youth are supported and families are healthy. This vision will guide the Community Safety Plan.

Councillor Stephen Rayner Executive Council Report – August 2026

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

Area of Responsibility:

Law and Policy Committee (Executive Council Portfolio Holder: In August, the Law & Policy Committee continued to advance several important legislative priorities for Huu-ay-aht First Nations. The Committee held a lengthy meeting during the month and reviewed and provided direction on proposed amendments to the Economic Development Act, Financial Administration Act, and Lands Regulation, as well as receiving an update on the Community Safety Regulation.

The Economic Development Act continues to progress well, with a clear path forward for the proposed amendments and continued work through the Economic Development Act Working Group, which I sit on. The Committee provided further direction to support the development of a strong and effective economic development framework that aligns with Huu-ay-aht governance, accountability, and broader economic priorities.

The Committee also reviewed proposed amendments to the Financial Administration Act and provided recommendations and direction regarding drafting and potential changes. This work is intended to ensure the legislation continues to provide a practical and effective financial governance framework for the Nation.

Significant discussion also took place regarding proposed amendments to the Lands Regulation. The regulation continues to be developed with a focus on better serving Huu-ay-aht citizens, supporting the responsible stewardship and management of Huu-ay-aht lands and territory, and providing greater clarity around where and how future development may occur. Further updates and proposed alterations to the Lands Regulation will return to the Committee for continued review.

Due to the length of the agenda and the detailed discussion required on the legislative items before the Committee, two items were moved to the next meeting: the creation of the Prescribed Amounts Regulation and the legislation spreadsheet reviewing the broader legislative amendments currently underway.

Emerging Issues: Continued advancement of the Economic Development Act, Financial Administration Act amendments, and Lands Regulation remains a priority. The Committee will also need to continue managing a significant legislative workload as several related regulatory and legislative initiatives progress concurrently.

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 August, I continued advancing Huu-ay-aht's clean energy priorities, with a strong focus on progressing the offshore floating wind project, completing the Anacla Government Office solar project, and strengthening strategic

relationships with First Nations, industry partners, regulators, and senior levels of government. Significant work continued on the offshore wind pre-feasibility phase, government and regulatory engagement, and preparation for upcoming advocacy opportunities, while broader discussions continued regarding First Nations-led clean energy development and investment opportunities.

Offshore Floating Wind Pilot: Work continued throughout August to advance the offshore floating wind project. We continue to meet biweekly with SeaTwirl and our partners at AKS Wind to advance the technical and commercial pre-feasibility work required to move the project toward its next stage.

Engagement with the Province and regulators also continued throughout the month. We remain in active discussions with the BC Energy Regulator and the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions, both of which continue to be supportive of the project and are working with us to better understand the regulatory pathway required for offshore renewable energy development. The Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth has also been very supportive of the project.

We also met several times during August with our government relations strategist to prepare for further meetings with government and upcoming engagement through the Union of BC Municipalities. This work includes refining our core messaging and identifying specific requests related to regulatory support, project funding, and business and economic development assistance.

Engagement with BC Hydro also continues to progress positively. As reported previously, BC Hydro has assigned a representative to work directly with Huu-ay-aht on the project. We have also engaged directly with senior BC Hydro leadership, including the Chair of the Board of Directors and President and CEO Charlotte Mitha. Huu-ay-aht is preparing a formal letter to advance discussions regarding the potential transition of the Electricity Purchase Agreement associated with the former Sarita Micro-Hydro Project to the offshore wind project. If achievable, this could help streamline an important component of the project's commercial development.

Overall, the offshore floating wind project continues to progress very positively and is receiving strong interest and support at both the provincial and federal levels. Our immediate focus remains on completing the pre-feasibility work, advancing the regulatory and commercial pathway, and continuing to work closely with SeaTwirl, AKS Wind, and our other project partners.

Anacla Government Office Solar Project: The Anacla Government Office solar project is complete and is now in the final stages of commissioning. The remaining commissioning work is expected to be completed within the next month, after which the system will be fully operational.

Completion of the project represents another important step in implementing Huu-ay-aht's clean energy priorities at the community level and provides a practical example of locally generated renewable energy supporting long-term sustainability, resilience, and operating-cost reduction.

Sector Engagement, Strategic Partnerships & Multi-Nation Collaboration: Throughout August, I continued engaging with First Nations, development corporations, government, regulators, and industry regarding opportunities for clean energy development, investment, and collaboration. Discussions have continued with a number of Nations, including Quatsino, Toquaht, and others, regarding opportunities for power development and broader economic collaboration.

We also continue discussions with Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che'tles7et'h', Tiicma Development Corporation, led by Gary Wilson, regarding opportunities for regional and multi-Nation collaboration. Huu-ay-aht

is also advancing additional partnership agreements with First Nations to explore broader economic development opportunities, including opportunities within the clean energy sector.

Huu-ay-aht continues to engage with senior provincial government officials, regulators, First Nations, and industry to ensure the Nation is well positioned to take advantage of emerging clean energy opportunities. This includes identifying opportunities for development within Huu-ay-aht territory as well as potential investments and partnerships in commercially attractive clean energy projects elsewhere that can generate long-term economic benefits for the Nation.

Emerging Issues: Priorities remain completing the offshore wind pre-feasibility work, advancing regulatory and BC Hydro discussions, completing final commissioning of the Anacla solar project, and positioning Huu-ay-aht for emerging First Nations-led clean energy development and investment opportunities.

Climate Sustainability (Executive Council Joint Portfolio Holder: In August, I continued to support the Climate Sustainability portfolio, with a focus on supporting the work being led by Sean Flickinger and helping identify government, funding, and partnership opportunities that can assist with advancing Huu-ay-aht's climate resilience priorities.
Sean continues to make strong progress in developing planning and priorities related to resilience and preparedness within Huu-ay-aht territory. My role has primarily been to support this work through government relations, relationship-building, and identifying potential provincial and federal funding opportunities that could help move priority initiatives forward.
Climate sustainability and resilience remain ongoing and challenging areas of work, and I look forward to continuing to meet with Sean and support the planning and development work he is advancing. Preparations are underway for our next meeting to review progress, priorities, and areas where additional support may be helpful.
Emerging Issues: Continued access to funding and government support remains important to advancing Huu-ay-aht's climate sustainability and resilience priorities.

Capital Raise (Portfolio): In August, 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 strong progress through project development, partnership discussions, government engagement, and work to establish the governance, regulatory, funding, and commercial pathways required to move these major opportunities forward.
The focus remains on ensuring these projects are structured to protect Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests while creating significant economic, employment, and revenue opportunities for the Nation.

Framework Planning Project: The Framework Planning Project continued to progress throughout August. We met with the Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses and further refined the respective roles of the Huu-ay-aht Government and the Group of Businesses in the future execution and implementation of the Framework Plan.
Work also continued with our project partners to refine the remaining details of the agreement, particularly those relating to governance, responsibilities, and how future development opportunities will move from planning into implementation. The project continues along the established path, with the focus now on ensuring there is clarity between the roles of government, the Group of Businesses, and our development partners.
Government engagement also continued during August. I have discussed the Framework Planning Project with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth, including the broader economic

development opportunities associated with the project and the potential role of government as individual development opportunities advance.
Overall, the Framework Planning Project continues to move forward, with the current focus on finalizing the details required to provide a strong foundation for implementation.

Ship Recycling Project: The ship recycling project continued to advance significantly during August. We continue to meet weekly with our partners at Hazelwood Construction and are building on the pre-feasibility work completed to date to further develop the regulatory, funding, commercial, and project-development pathways.
The Province has now completed its CPCS report examining ship recycling opportunities in British Columbia. Huu-ay-aht's proposed project has been identified as the opportunity with the strongest potential to advance within the province. This provides an important foundation for moving into the next stages of pre-feasibility and for continuing discussions with government regarding regulatory pathways, infrastructure requirements, and potential funding support.
There continues to be significant provincial interest and support for the project. Through August, we continued working with government and our government relations advisors to prepare for upcoming meetings, including engagement at the Union of BC Municipalities. A key focus has been refining our core messaging and developing clear government asks related to regulatory support, project funding, infrastructure, and economic development assistance.
We are also exploring opportunities to integrate clean energy into the development of the facility. Incorporating clean energy infrastructure could strengthen the environmental and economic benefits of the project while potentially opening additional funding and partnership opportunities.
The long-term economic potential of the project remains significant for Huu-ay-aht. A ship recycling and marine industrial facility could create substantial employment opportunities across skilled trades, operations, administration, management, and supporting businesses. It could also create opportunities to develop long-term relationships with organizations such as the Department of National Defence and Royal Canadian Navy, BC Ferries, Seaspan, and other major marine operators.
The project continues to build momentum and has the potential to provide significant long-term employment, business development, and own-source revenue opportunities that contribute to Huu-ay-aht's long-term financial sustainability.

Emerging Issues: Priorities remain finalizing the Framework Project arrangements and advancing the ship recycling project through its next stage of pre-feasibility, regulatory development, and government funding discussions.

Chair of Board of Directors of Huumiis Ventures: In August, 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.
This work continues to progress reasonably well. Much of the current 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 advance.
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 the organization continues to follow the appropriate processes with Western Forest Products and legal counsel.
The broader coastal forestry sector continues to face significant challenges, including ongoing market and operating pressures. These conditions remain an important consideration for Huumiis Ventures, and the Board and leadership continue to monitor them closely while remaining focused

on protecting Huu-ay-aht's investment and supporting the long-term stability and success of the business.
Overall, Huumiis Ventures continued to advance its work through August, with the Board maintaining its focus on good governance, appropriate oversight, and protecting Huu-ay-aht's long-term interests.

Emerging Issues: Ongoing coastal forestry pressures and continued work with Western Forest Products remain the primary areas of focus.

Clean Energy BC (CEBC), Acting Interim Executive Director: In August, I continued serving as Acting Interim Executive Director for Clean Energy BC in accordance with the approval provided by Council, while maintaining my responsibilities with Huu-ay-aht. The role continued to focus on providing leadership and continuity for the organization while overseeing its regular operations and ongoing policy, advocacy, committee, and administrative work.
Throughout the month, I continued overseeing day-to-day operations, supporting staff and the Board, and leading the organization through a period of transition and organizational change. This has included change management, restructuring, future planning, internal decision-making, financial and administrative oversight, member engagement, and ensuring priority work continues to advance.
A significant focus in August was also preparing Clean Energy BC for a busy fall period. Planning continued for upcoming government and sector engagement, including the Union of BC Municipalities, advocacy days, and the First Nations Energy Summit, along with other policy and advocacy priorities.
Clean Energy BC continues to engage with government, BC Hydro, regulators, members, First Nations, and other clean energy stakeholders. The role continues to provide valuable insight into provincial clean energy policy, regulatory developments, advocacy priorities, and emerging opportunities across the sector.

Government Relations Committee: In August, the Government Relations Committee continued advancing Clean Energy BC's key advocacy priorities around electricity supply, grid reliability, future procurement, transmission and interconnection, and increased First Nations participation in clean energy development. The Committee also continued preparing for fall government engagement and UBCM advocacy, with a focus on ensuring government understands the need for predictable procurement, timely infrastructure investment, and clear policy signals that allow First Nations and the private sector to continue investing in new generation.
Battery energy storage also became an increasingly important file. Following BC Hydro's announcement of its first utility-scale battery project and a broader procurement process for grid-scale storage, Clean Energy BC has continued advocating for opportunities for competitive private-sector and First Nations participation in future storage development. BC Hydro issued its BESS Request for Supplier Qualifications on July 30 and held its information session on August 20. Clean Energy BC also continues to emphasize the need for long-term resource planning that more fully reflects growing electricity demand and provides greater certainty around future Calls for Power.

Permitting & Regulatory Committee: In August, the Committee continued focusing on implementation of the Province's new streamlined permitting framework for renewable energy projects and the expanding role of the BC Energy Regulator. The Renewable Energy Projects Regulation is now in effect for larger wind and solar projects, establishing the BCER as the primary lifecycle regulator and creating a more coordinated permitting pathway.
A key area of focus is ensuring the new framework works effectively in practice, including providing clear and predictable application requirements, appropriate coordination with First Nations, and efficient processing of investigative-use and project permits. The BCER continued

accepting feedback on its interim renewable-energy permitting guidance through the summer, with the consultation now extending to September 30, 2026. The Committee will continue engaging on implementation to help identify regulatory barriers and support a permitting system that maintains strong environmental and First Nations requirements while allowing clean energy projects to advance efficiently.

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

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

Week one (Aug 3rd to 7th):

- BC Day
- EDA amendments meeting
- Frame point meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Edward Johnson
- SeaTwirl Floating Wind Project meeting
- Regulatory Efficiency meeting
- Special EC meeting
- FrameWork project meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting with Councilor Brad Johnson
- Meeting w/Innergex

Week two (Aug 10th to 14th):

- Annual leave
- Bi-weekly meeting w/Lands Director
- EDA amendments meeting
- EC meeting
- Ship recycling team meeting
- Wind Project development discussion

Week three (Aug 17th to 21st):

- Bi-weekly meeting with Economic Development Officer
- Frame point meeting
- Committee of the Whole meeting
- Annual leave
- Government relations meeting
- Ship recycling meeting

Week four (Aug 24th to 31st):

- Annual Leave
- Bi-weekly meeting w/Lands Director
- EC meeting
- Ministry of Energy and Climate solutions meeting
- Law and Policy Committee meeting
- HFN/HGB meeting
- Bi-weekly meeting w/EcDev Officer

Councillor Nicole Malcomson Report – August 2026

August was a busy month with Huu-ay-aht Days, Graduation, Committee of the Whole, Council, Citizen Development and Public Safety portfolio work, as well as continued relationship-building with regional partners.

Key activities included:

- Participated in Community Capacity Governance (CCG) sessions on August 6 and 7.
- Attended and spoke at Huu-ay-aht Graduation on August 13, recognizing 24 graduates at the House of Huu-ay-aht, **16 Dogwoods & 8 Post Secondary Graduates.**
- Camped in Anacla during Huu-ay-aht Days and had the opportunity to spend time with citizens and hear concerns directly.
- Continued developing relationships with Ditidaht, RCMP ICP, Indigenous Services Canada, Witwak, Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department and other regional partners.
- Participated in the Committee of the Whole monthly meeting and 2 Council meetings and continued work relating to HGB governance and economic development.
- Began more detailed review of the proposed Education Policy changes that have gone to CDC for review in September.
- Advanced the concept of a consolidated Public Safety and Emergency Services Snapshot for the Anacla/Bamfield area.
- Continued exploring how better data, reporting and institutional knowledge can support Council decision-making.

Citizen Development

Education: Education became a larger area of work bucket during August, as expected! Looking forward to working with Education closer through the fall here and hearing more about our Huu-ay-aht Students.

On August 5, I met with Brent and Coral to better understand current education planning, including matters relating to Bamfield Community School. This helped identify several areas requiring continued attention through the Citizen Development Committee, including education supports, family engagement and the relationship between Huu-ay-aht and local education partners.

Later in the month, I began a more detailed review of proposed amendments to Huu-ay-aht's Education Policy. I developed a working document to organize the proposed changes and identify areas requiring further consideration.

Through that review, I raised questions regarding how some proposed changes would affect citizens, how eligibility and academic support decisions would be made, and whether the Citizen Development Committee had been sufficiently involved in developing changes to a policy directly connected to its mandate.

This work will continue into September through the Citizen Development Committee. My goal is to ensure the policy is understandable, equitable, administratively workable and aligned with the outcomes Huu-ay-aht is trying to achieve through education funding.

Regional Collaboration and Relationship Building

Public Safety and Emergency Services
Public Safety became another substantial area of focus during August.

I met with Karen and members of the Witwak team on August 17 to better understand their current roles, responsibilities and expectations, and to meet Ashley Johnston in her management role while Sean Flickenger is away.

During Huu-ay-aht Days, Daniel Z. reached out and invited me to visit the Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department. I toured the Fire Hall and reviewed the emergency medical response ambulance and existing emergency response capacity.

Those conversations, combined with discussions with Administration, Witwak and leadership, **evolved into a broader question:**

- What emergency and public safety services currently exist in Anacla and Bamfield,
- who is responsible for each service,
- how do those plans interact with each other,
- what agreements support them,
- and where are the gaps?

From that came the concept of developing a consolidated Public Safety and Emergency Services Snapshot. The intent is not to create another plan, but to bring existing services, agreements, resources, responsibilities and identified gaps together in one place so that Council has a clearer picture of the current system before considering future investments or changes. The concept received support to continue developing on August 24.

This work will continue into September, including follow-up with Daniel and other emergency-service partners.

Community Safety and Prevention

I participated in discussions regarding implementation of the Community Safety framework, exclusion orders, mitigation planning and how Huu-ay-aht can build internal capacity to respond appropriately to complex community-safety situations.

One important theme worth sharing was ensuring that enforcement is not the only response available. Discussion included training, professional development, prevention, compliance supports and ensuring that interventions do not unintentionally create additional harm.

I also received and followed up on community safety concerns during Huu-ay-aht Days and later in August. One concern raised by a citizen involved difficulty navigating the process for reporting a serious matter involving minors. That highlighted for me that having a reporting process is not enough if citizens do not know where to go, have to repeat themselves multiple times, or information does not reach the appropriate service quickly.

This is an area I intend to continue following through the Public Safety portfolio.

Regional and Intergovernmental

Relationship-building continued from July into August.

I met with Derek Thompson of Ditidaht on August 4 regarding FNHA and First Nations Health Council matters, continuing the regional health relationship-building that began through my FNHA and Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network engagement in July.

I also continued engagement with RCMP. A new member, Tomy Vezina, joined the ICP RCMP group, and I received the ICP Community Safety Report on August 20. I later met with James Wingfield and Karen on August 28 for further discussion.

On August 24, I participated in an introductory discussion with Indigenous Services Canada regarding emergency planning and services. Road and emergency-planning issues were identified for further discussion, and engagement is expected to continue in September.

These relationships are beginning to move beyond introductions and toward identifying where regional partners can support Huu-ay-aht priorities.

- Road safety education at BSC,
- Alcohol Reduction Plan to be proposed to CDC in September.

Data, Reporting and Institutional Knowledge

One area I continued raising during August was how Council receives and retains information.

At Committee of the Whole, I raised the concept of strengthening data governance and performance reporting so that Council can more easily understand what programs and initiatives are achieving, how investments connect to outcomes, and how priorities progress over time. My concern is also ensuring that useful information and advocacy history are not lost when elected officials, staff or organizational structures change.

This connects back to the community-concerns tracking work I began during my transition onto Council. Over time, I would like to see better use of trend information, measurable outcomes and historical records to support decision-making rather than repeatedly rebuilding institutional knowledge and will be sharing some of the findings of these best practices at the Council Table for consideration. I think this will tie in nicely with Governance Training that is occurring at the end of October.

This remains an emerging area of work rather than a completed initiative.

Governance Review

Governance continued to be a significant area of learning and inquiry during August.
At the August 18 Committee of the Whole, I participated in discussions with HGB regarding the working relationship between HFN governance and HGB, including information flow, responsibilities, communication and decision-making processes. My focus continues to be on ensuring that roles are clear and that Council has the information required to exercise its governance responsibilities appropriately.

On August 28, I also participated in a leadership discussion regarding HFN's historical relationship with Forum. That discussion generated additional questions for me regarding the history of the relationship, previous decisions and authorities, development processes and the respective roles of HFN and HGB.

Rather than forming conclusions without the historical record, I requested supporting documents from staff and began collecting and reviewing previous materials on August 31.

This review will continue into September as I work to better understand how previous decisions were made and what governance considerations may need to be addressed going forward.

Huu-ay-aht Days and Community Engagement

August provided considerably more opportunities for informal citizen engagement.

Lots of Camping - My daughter did the Diana Island Campout with the Culture Team when the West Coast Trail was too wet and dangerous to embark on it. Then as a family, we camped out at Pachena Bay Campground from August 12–17 during Graduation, E.C. meeting and Huu-ay-aht Days. Being present for several days provided opportunities for conversations that do not always happen through formal meetings or email. It also gave me a deeper appreciation of our territory and our time together in informal ways. Really nice to see everyone and meet new people there, A couple of us utilized the sauna that was stationed there, and sweats gave some opportunities to get to know each other better and warm-up; Fogust cold.

I was honoured to participate in Huu-ay-aht Graduation on August 13 and recognize 24 amazing Huu-ay-aht students for their accomplishments. I also got to borrow Amanda-Lee's camera from Communications to take some photos of our citizens on their big day, on top of getting to speak for the first time as a newly elected Council member. I was nervous, but really filled with gratitude for the opportunity to be part of such a full-circle moment and celebrate the beginning of their next chapters. I look forward to seeing where their journeys take them and hope we can continue encouraging our students to pursue their goals and recognize all the different ways they can achieve great things.

I also finally submitted my Council bio for the Huu-ay-aht website this month, something that took me longer than it probably should have because it turns out writing about yourself is surprisingly awkward! It was a good opportunity, though, to reflect on where I come from, the people and experiences that shaped me, and what I bring with me into this role. Thank you again for believing in me to do this work.

Overdose Awareness Day – August 31

I also appreciated seeing citizens come together **for International Overdose Awareness Day** at the end of the month. Although I was unable to attend, I was pleased to hear that approximately **45 people participated in Port Alberni and 25 in Anacla**. I hope this initiative continues to grow and creates space to recognize people in their sobriety journeys and celebrate the work that goes into making healthy choices. Equally important is creating space to remember those we have had to say goodbye to far too early, to share their stories with love and remember them as the whole people they were, rather than simply as statistics through particularly as we reflect on more than a decade of opioid-related harms and 10 years since British Columbia declared the toxic-drug crisis a public health emergency. Remember to wear Purple on August 31 next year to observe this day with us or watch for the next event.

Looking Ahead

Several pieces of work initiated or developed during August will carry into September.

My immediate priorities include advancing the Public Safety and Emergency Services Snapshot; continuing Education Policy review and restarting the Citizen Development Committee; following up with emergency-management and regional partners; continuing work relating to community-

safety reporting and prevention; and completing further review of the historical HFN, HGB and Forum development relationships.

I will also continue working toward better reporting and information continuity so that Council can more easily connect decisions and investments with measurable outcomes for citizens.

August helped clarify where I can contribute most effectively within my portfolios. A few issues that initially appeared separate through education, public safety, emergency services, regional partnerships and data, all share a common need for clear information, defined responsibilities and measurable outcomes. I expect that to continue shaping my work moving forward. I look forward to September, I particularly like the fall months, (my birthday month) and the ‘new beginnings’ that September often brings us.
Take care of each other, we all have lots to be grateful for and still can work towards more in a good way.

Klecko Klecko,



Nicole Malcomson
Executive Council Member, Huu-ay-aht First Nations
August 2026