



Yuutu?it?ath

# Umacuk

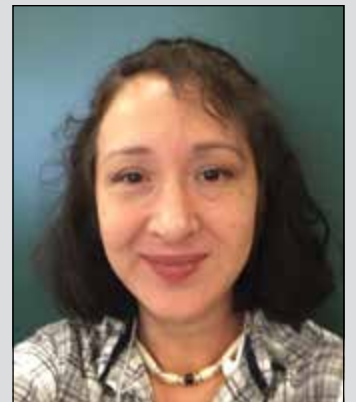
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## Briefly



Janice Webster honoured for work in Port Alberni  
Page 3



Work is progressing on the The ʔapsčiiik ʔašii project in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve  
Page 5



The Language Nest program is proving to be very popular  
Page 6

## Inside:

- Director of Operations . . . . . 2
- President's Report. . . 3
- Lands & Resources . . 7



Carver Tim Paul's totem pole design

## New Totem Pole Will Promote Our Language

A new Language Revolution Totem Pole has been commissioned by the First Nations Education Foundation (FNEF) and will be carved by renowned Nuu-chah-nulth carver Tim Paul, says Yuutu?it?ath Government President and FNEF volunteer Chief Executive Officer.

The totem pole is being made in recognition of the United Nations' International Year of Indigenous Languages and will draw attention to the importance of Indigenous language and culture in Canada. Paul is part of the Hesquiaht Tribe, who has made presentations to Ucluelet First Nation about cultural significance.

"This totem pole will not only raise awareness of the threats facing Indigenous languages in Canada and around the world, it will also draw attention to the urgent need to advance reconciliation and healing by supporting Indigenous peoples and communities in their efforts to preserve and promote their languages and cultures through innovative solutions," says Doiron.

When completed, the

Language Revitalization Totem Pole will be gifted to the University of Victoria where it will stand, with the blessing and support of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations, in recognition of the University's

**"Oral history, songs, dances, ceremony and art were - and continue to be - the vehicle for transmitting history."**

Tim Paul

leadership in Language Revitalization and Indigenous Studies.

The stories and themes carver Tim Paul has selected to be featured on the pole honour 10 relatives of the Nuu-chah-nulth people: sky, sun, moon, mountains, rivers, lakes, land,

sea, wind and stars. There is also an eleventh relative that will be depicted on the pole: earthquake, which is sent to teach humility and remind human beings of the all-encompassing power of the Creator.

"Oral history, songs, dances, ceremony, and art were - and continue to be - the vehicle for transmitting history, knowledge, and sovereign rights from generation to generation," said Paul. "Through storytelling we are also reminded of our family ties to neighbouring tribes and Nations. When we use our language, it is not just another way of saying something; the principles of our culture are embedded in the language and many words simply cannot be translated. It is only by understanding our language that we can unlock the most important values, principles, and concepts of who we are."

Doiron says carving the Language Revitalization Pole will not only bring attention to the threats facing Indigenous languages, but will also create

Continued on page 4

## New Fire Services Agreement with Ucluelet



President Les Doiron

HITACU - The Yuutu?it?ath Government (YG) and the District of Ucluelet have approved an agreement for the Ucluelet Volunteer Fire Brigade (UVFB) to provide fire protection service to Hitacu and other Treaty Specified Lands (TSL).

The two-year agreement is immediately in effect and covers all YG TSL lands in Wya, the Highway 4 Junction, Clakamucus, Lost Shoe and Hitacu, and calls for the District to respond to fire emergencies with all necessary equipment and

personnel to extinguish fire and protect structures from loss or damage caused by structural fires. The agreement runs from February 25, 2019 to February 25, 2021.

YG President Les Doiron says "On behalf of our community and hard-working team, we would like to give a thank you, to the District of Ucluelet Mayor Mayco Noël and his Council and staff. ʔeekoo ʔeekoo to our neighbours. We have coexisted for many decades with great relationships and it's

great to see both municipal and YG governments at work. Our Government looks forward to continued collaborative projects in the future. Thank you again to our friends & neighbours "across the bay".

Ucluelet Mayor Mayco Noël sees the agreement as a positive step for both partners and supports the District's draft Official Community Plan expectations for YG relationships and reconciliation.

The agreement requires  
Continued on page 7

## Highlights From The Inaugural Government To Government Meeting



**Suzanne Williams**  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

### Columbia Government.

BC announced their plans to introduce legislation that implements the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and will be the first province in Canada to enact and support the UNDRIP. More information on this can be viewed at: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018PREM0144-002301>

Maa-nulth nations will also have access to the new First Nations Gaming Revenue. More information can be viewed at: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018PREM0144-002301>

### Review of the Draft Budget for 2019 – 2020

The draft budget for 2019/20 was reviewed by the finance committee and a report and recommendation



Director of Operations Suzanne Williams participating in negotiations with the federal government

Highlights from the Inaugural Government to Government Meeting between Maa-nulth Nation Governments and the British



Are you a pet owner in Hitacu?

## THINK PET LICENCE

Stop by the Government Office in Hitacu to get your pet licence and pick up some complementary pet supplies!

Pet licencing is a legal requirement for pet owners on Treaty Settlement Lands and better positions us to ensure the health and safety of our residents and their pets. Call (250) 726-7342 with any questions!

is forthcoming from the committee to the Legislature for their upcoming meeting of the Legislature on March 4.

Preparation for the New Fiscal Year

To prepare for the new fiscal year, the Yuulu?i?ath Government Management Team met in January to discuss successes and challenges faced in the current fiscal year with respect to the annual plans and budgets and to discuss priorities for the coming year.

**Janice Webster, Sr. Administrative Assistant** of the Hiłstiiis Hupii?uł – Yuulu?i?ath Government Port Alberni Satellite Office, officially finished her position with the nation on February 19.

Over the last couple of years, Janice worked hard at building relationships with our citizens and was able to host several engagement sessions and celebrations. Janice was well supported by her family in her time with the nation and their kindness, generosity, and willingness to always help will be greatly missed. We wish Janice and her family all the best in their future endeavours and hope that our paths will cross again one day.

We will be seeking an immediate replacement to ensure there are minimal gaps in urban services and the position and urban office location will be further evaluated as we head into the new budget year.

Enactment of the Yuulu?i?ath Government Personnel Act

With the January 23 enactment of the Yuulu?i?ath Government Personnel Act Amendment No. 1, the YG Administration is now able to move forward with the Personnel Policy revisions that have been in draft form since 2015.

The new policy will ensure that the YG is current with federal employment legislation (i.e. the *Canada Labour Code*). The plan is to roll out the new policy in the new fiscal year.

# President's Report

March, 2019 | Yuulu?i?ath Umacuk

3

## Friendly staff a key to reaching out to Urban citizens



**Les Doiron**  
**PRESIDENT**



President Les Doiron participating in the inaugural G2G meeting with the BC government

Janice Webster has been our friendly, hard working staff member at Ucluelet First Nations' Urban Office in Port Alberni, but she's now off to Victoria to work for Tswaout.

Janice helped coordinate urban gatherings, meals, Christmas dinners, vulture nights, urban salmon barbecues, culture nights, and always made our urban citizens feel like they were at home.

Not only did she work for us, but her entire family also contributed to making our urban events fun and exciting.

The Urban Christmas dinners were attended by over 200 citizens, and the Urban salmon barbecue that we held at Canal Beach in Port Alberni last summer was attended by over 200 people as well. Janice worked tirelessly behind the scenes and was a big reason why these gatherings were so successful.

On behalf of Ucluelet First Nation and the YG government, I would like to extend a huge thank you, kleco, to Janice and her family for her kindness and thoughtful hard work.

Thank you for treating our urban citizens so well, Janice, and we wish you the best of luck in your new position.

We have purposely resolved to reach out to our Urban members every way we can, as each and every member of our Nation is important to us. We

trust that the dinners and barbecues, which were so well attended, helped everyone feel they are cared for and an important part of what we're wanting to accomplish as a Nation.

### Negotiations Ongoing

Several members of our Nation have been involved in the negotiations with the federal government, aimed at securing the proper amount of funding to provide the services our citizens deserve and need.

The Maa-nulth First Nations continue to negotiate with Canada and B.C. to renew the Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA) with a target date to complete by March 31, 2019.

The Self-Governing Indigenous Nations (SGIGs) met with Prime Minister Trudeau on January 8, 2019 in Ottawa. The Prime Minister affirmed his commitment to working with SGIGs to ensure indigenous governments are appropriately funded and able to carry out their governing responsibilities.

It is clear that the original FFA's signed between the parties did not provide appropriate levels of funding to enable the Maa-nulth First Nations to fully implement the treaties. The five Maa-nulth First Nations are negotiating collectively, but five separate FFA's will be signed.

Pamela Hunter has been a consistent



President Les Doiron presented Janice Webster with flowers on her last day at the Port Alberni office in appreciation for her fine work

participant and steady, calming influence in the negotiations, which, we trust, are coming to a positive conclusion when the federal government announces its next budget in mid-March.

"The work done at the Collaborative Fiscal Policy Development Table, which YG has participated at for the past few years, has positively contributed to building strong rationale to support a

significant increase in governance funding," says Pam.

We have been literally criss-crossing the country over the past many months in order to reach an agreement that works for Ucluelet First Nation and the other four Maa-nulth First Nations. We believe our hard work and persistence is going to pay off soon, for the benefit of all of our citizens.

## 10 Years Later: Canada Still Fails To Provide Nuu-Chah-Nulth Fishing Rights Intervenors from across the country weigh in at the B.C. Court of Appeal

The five Nuu-chah-nulth Nations, Ahousaht, Ehattesaht/Chinehkint, Hesquiaht, Tla-o-qui-aht and Mowachaht/Muchalaht, met with supporters on the steps of the Supreme Court of B.C. on February 11 to emphasize their right to harvest and sell species caught in their territorial waters.

"In April, I challenged the Prime Minister to try and come to an agreement with our T'aaq-wiihak fishermen within three months. Sadly, we are about to walk into the Court of Appeal to try and resolve how the federal government has infringed on these five Nations' right to a commercial fishery,"

says **Judith Sayers**, President of the **Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council**.

"Lack of meaningful, good faith negotiations on the part of Canada fly in the face of their governments' commitment' to reconciliation, and in fact, Canada's approach creates irreconcilable differences."

The B.C. Court of Appeal opened proceedings to look into the scope under which nations can exercise their Aboriginal right to harvest and sell species caught in their territorial waters.

The proceedings follow a decision handed down in April, 2018 in which Justice Humphries interpreted Aboriginal fishing rights as "a small scale,

artisanal, local, multi-species fishery, to be conducted in a nine-mile strip from shore, using small, low-cost boats with limited technology and restricted catching power, and aimed at wide community participation."

Today, the Nuu-chah-nulth Nations expressed their disappointment in the limited scope of the decision from April and expressed their right to seek a fishery that supports their fishing culture and way of life. They require a fishery that is sustainable and economically viable, and that provides for the widespread participation of their people.

"This is unacceptable. For a

government that has said their relationship with Indigenous peoples is their most important (priority), their actions speak otherwise," expressed Sayers. "There have been many commitments of this Liberal government including resolving litigation out of court, implementing the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action, but these commitments have yet to transpire.

"T'aaq-wiihak Nations are tired of waiting to implement their right to a commercial fishery that was confirmed by the courts 10 years ago."

## Totem pole will raise awareness of Indigenous language

Continued from page 1

content for the innovative language revitalization pilot project currently underway in the Yuulu?il?ath community where the Barkley dialect of the Nuu-chah-nulth language is at imminent risk of becoming extinct: At present there are fewer than seven Elder fluent speakers from the Ucluelet First Nation who still speak this dialect.

“This totem pole will not only raise awareness of the threats facing Indigenous languages in Canada and around the world, it will also draw attention to the urgent need to advance reconciliation and healing by supporting Indigenous peoples and communities in their efforts to preserve and promote their languages and cultures through innovative solutions,” says Doiron.

In early December 2018, with the blessing of the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, Master Carver Paul, along with Port Alberni Carver **George Nookimus**, **Western Forest Products** Procurement Supervisor **Brad Baron**, FNEF Executive Director **Scott Jeary**, and several others toured the Huu-ay-aht Treaty Settlement Lands and Western Forest Products TFL 44 areas to evaluate the condition of potential carving logs for the Language Revitalization Pole.

They were able to locate an ancient cedar tree – estimated to be approximately 800 years old – that fell naturally during a windstorm blow down event around 50 to 70 years ago. A plan has been devised



Carver Tim Paul is well respected for his craftsmanship

for the extraction and transport of the tree to the carving site in Port Alberni pending a thorough inspection by Tim Paul to ensure the tree's integrity. Alternate cedar tree candidates for the pole continue to be investigated as a backup.

As carving begins, documentary cameras led by filmmaker **Dale Devost** will follow the entire process – with the footage to be used later in education tool kits for distribution to the 11,000 UNESCO **Associated Schools Network (ASPnet)** in over 180 countries and as content for language lessons on the FNEF platform.

Fundraising efforts are currently underway to support the totem pole project and the Ucluelet First Nation Nuu-chah-nulth, Barkley dialect, language revitalization pilot project. The estimated cost of the Indigenous Language Revitalization totem pole and pilot project is pegged at \$1 million, with a project budget breakdown of \$150,000 for carving (students, guest carvers, tools, location costs), \$100,000 for logistics (tree, transportation, staging, raising, etc.), \$650,000 to complete the Nuu-chah-nulth Language Preservation Pilot Project and expand it to include the other 13 Nuu-chah-nulth

nations, communities, and dialects, and \$100,000 for a documentary, ceremony, and promotion.

In addition to the patronage of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, the project has received support from the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, Western Forest Products, and the University of Victoria, the **Royal BC Museum**, **BC Chamber of Commerce**, **Museum of Vancouver**, **RBC**, **Teck**, **Intefor**, **AME**, **TimberWest** and several other organizations and individuals and First Nations.

In addition to the Ucluelet First Nation, FNEF is in discussion with the Haisla Nation in Kitimat and other First Nations in Canada who have asked how FNEF can help with their language revitalization efforts.

There are 34 Indigenous languages represented in the province of British Columbia which make up over two thirds of the Indigenous languages spoken in Canada.

Worldwide, there are 7,000 languages representing 5,000 different cultures. The overwhelming majority of these languages are spoken by 370 million Indigenous people in over 90 countries.

A great majority of these Indigenous languages are disappearing, and at an alarming rate.

In Canada, there are approximately 60 Indigenous languages, each with unique dialects, histories, and cultural traditions. Alarming, almost three-quarters of these languages are at risk of being lost within this generation. If these languages become extinct, Indigenous nations risk losing their cultural identities forever.

## YG Multiple Language Apprentices Program very successful

By **Dr. Bernice Touchie**  
*Language Coordinator*

The Language Program has been successful in acquiring a Multiple Language Apprentices program from First Peoples called the British Columbia Language Initiatives.

Normally only one pair of mentor-apprentices is selected to do the seven-month program.

First Peoples invited former teams to apply again, so a multiple apprenticeship was tested and we received

it, and for us, it will be a pilot. The brave pairs are **Rose Wilson** and **Eileen Touchie**, **Bob Mundy** and **Jen-eva Touchie**, and **Marge Touchie** with **Moira Barney**.

As the pairs apply this one-on-one approach, they are using the most effective immersion approach. This method has several strengths including, cultural focus, student-mentor choice, own way-of-life communication, own pace, intertribal events as training and as well, the community/administration

support.

In our Nuuchahnulth environment we witnessed many years of Yuutuitath also taking sessions classroom-style. It is not easy to commit the time as adults, but they are to be praised for their determination and strength. Informal settings dispel anxiety and the patience, knowledge and experience of speakers also provide a precious mentorship.

We acknowledge and thank all the pairs, speakers and past students who



**Dr. Bernice Touchie**

walk in the strength of our ancestors. Please continue to participate even as a silent speaker to reconnect.

### Status Cards

YG is receiving forty status cards from AANDC at one time. Once we have issued all forty cards we will receive another forty. At this time, YG would like to begin a list of all of our citizens who require a status card. YG will set up appointments with our citizens – in Hitacu and our Port Alberni Satellite Office – who have recorded their name(s) on this list. If you have any questions or if you reside outside of Hitacu and Port Alberni and need a status card, please contact **Debbie Mundy** at 1-877-726-7342 ext 214 or at [debbie.mundy@ufn.ca](mailto:debbie.mundy@ufn.ca).



## ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ Park project searching for one more Elder

One more elder from Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ is needed to participate in the important process of planning the next steps of the ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ project in the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve (PRNPR).

Tammy Dorward, First Nation Liaison for PRNPR, says there are already two elders, Richard Mundy Sr. and Bob Mundy Sr., participating in the panel, but one more is needed to complete Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ's designated participants in the process.

The ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ project is proceeding in consultation and partnership with the Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations. When completed, it will be approximately 25 km in length along Long Beach within PRNPR, which is designed to provide a forest experience with a buffer between people and the road, with wide shoulders providing room for cyclists and pedestrians to pass safely.

Elder committee meetings are held quarterly.

These boards and working groups provide advice, guidance, support and recommendations to the PRNPR on topics including resource management, visitor experience, planning and economic development. Strong working relationships help ensure mutual interests are respected and considered in decision and policy-making.

"The elders were appointed by the Nation to provide guidance and consultation for the project," says Tammy. "We hope to have members of the working group at the open houses that will be announced in March, to be able to provide more information to the community directly to them."

"They will help determine a route that doesn't disturb culturally sensitive sites," she adds. The name ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ means going in the right direction on the trail, and it speaks to the direction that PRNPR and the First Nations are going on, together. They see this as a healing journey."

Tammy notes that the third board member could also be a younger person "who would be considered a knowledge keeper."

Tammy's responsibilities include working with PRNPR and both First Nations to ensure that information is shared between everyone. She also works on contracts for the project, as well as coordinating the open houses.

Contractors, if selected, are expected to provide an Economic Benefits package that includes plans indicating how many members of each First Nation will be hired as construction workers or help with cultural monitoring during the trail bed-building period, and any possible utilization of First Nation suppliers.

Future areas along the trail are expected to include visitor experience projects, which would also be First Nations employment opportunities.



Tammy Dorward of Parks Canada

Tammy says the construction contract will be awarded this spring, and construction is anticipated to start this summer. The government's website will have the tendered contract posted, as well as training and employment opportunities.

The trail was first announced in 2016, and it will provide access to new and existing viewpoints and facilities over family-friendly terrain that avoids steep grades and minimizes highway crossings.

It will also include signs in the Nuuh-chah-nulth language.

The new multi-use trail, located in the traditional territories of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation and Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ, will provide room for cyclists and pedestrians to pass safely. In many places, the trail will run near or parallel to Highway 4, with a forested buffer between trail users and vehicles wherever possible.

This will provide a scenic experience for trail users and increase safety for cyclists, while fulfilling a long-time request from local communities and visitors for a viable alternative to vehicle travel in the Pacific Rim region.

The trail will be open year-round for visitors to explore the natural and cultural wonders of Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. A short loop will connect the Kwisitis Visitor Centre and Wickaninnish Beach to the path and Highway 4.

Before any design or trail building began, a *Detailed Impact Analysis* was prepared, including a number of environmental, archaeological, and visitor safety assessments.

A Traditional Use Study was also conducted by First Nations, providing additional information that was unknown for the Long Beach Unit. As work on the multi-use trail progresses, Parks Canada continues to adapt trail design and building to each unique area where the trail will pass to best protect the environmental and cultural features of the park reserve.

Parks Canada is consulting and



The ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ trail project in the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve is an enormous project that will be an economic driver by attracting tourists to the area

working in partnership with the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation and Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ on the planning, development, and construction of the trail. Stakeholders and members of the public were invited to comment on the Detailed Impact Analysis in November-December of 2016. Parks Canada has also hosted two sets of public information sessions in November, 2016, and June, 2017.

### Parks Canada working with Indigenous Peoples

Parks Canada is committed to a network of heritage places that celebrates the contributions of Indigenous Peoples, their histories, and cultures, as well as the special relationship Indigenous Peoples have with lands and waters. Parks Canada works collaboratively with the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation and Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ on many aspects of Pacific Rim National Park Reserve.

In October 2017, the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation and Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ chose ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ as the official name given to the multi-use trail. The name is Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ, and translates to "going in the right direction on the trail."

Throughout this project, Parks Canada has been working together with the First Nations on the planning, development, and building of the multi-use trail. Parks Canada is collaborating with the Nations' Councils and an Elders Group was established to provide guidance on the trail. The support and involvement of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation and Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ is integral to the success of the project, and their contributions will ensure the trail presents a complete cultural experience for visitors to Pacific Rim National Park Reserve.

### About the name

Parks Canada is honoured to have Elders from Yuułuᑭᑦᑎᑦᑭᑦ and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation give the new multi-use path its official name.

ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ (pronounced ups-cheek ta-shee) translates to "going in the right direction on the trail," however the name has many layers of meaning depending on how the phrase is used.

Individually, it can refer to our

personal journeys in life - going in the right direction. To remember we are on the ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ (trail), and going in the right direction refers to being mindful of the environment and all living things.

Collectively, the Elders say "the land we walk on is made from the dust of our ancestors - in our life journey, we walk it carefully, respectfully, with humility and dignity."

Once constructed, the path will also have other Nuuh-chah-nulth place names to ensure the cultural significance of the area where the path traverses is acknowledged and appreciated.

### What is happening now?

Visitors travelling through the national park reserve are likely to see some cleared areas beside the Pacific Rim Highway and along Wickaninnish Road, as well as near some parking lots. While it may not always be visible, work continues behind the scenes, as Parks Canada plans the final details of the ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ project before the next phase of construction.

A Request for Information (RFI) is currently posted on the Government of Canada's Electronic Tendering Service ([buyandsell.gc.ca](http://buyandsell.gc.ca)). This process is to inform Parks Canada of the interest and capacity of contractors and local First Nations communities to work together for the construction of ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ. The information gathered will be used to inform the Indigenous Benefits Package (IBP) that will be included in the construction tender package.

The Invitation to Tender (ITT) for the next phase of construction will be posted on the Government of Canada's Electronic Tendering Service ([buyandsell.gc.ca](http://buyandsell.gc.ca)) early in 2019. Activities in this stage could include preparation of the path bed, bringing in gravel, installing drainage culverts, and building bridges.

Environmental and archaeological monitoring for the project is ongoing and will continue throughout the entire project.

For further information, Email: Tammy.Dorward@canada.ca

## Language Nest a great experience for children and teachers



*h̄uuhtak̄sīih̄ma huuksa*



*?uk̄wīīitin sapnin*

**By Samantha Touchie**  
*Culture & Heritage Assistant*

### quuquu?aca paw'ac

?uk̄taamah̄ sic̄quu?ūl̄ ?ah̄?aa?aāl̄ Samantha mama āl̄n'iqiic. H̄uuhtak̄sīih̄ah̄ quuquu?aca n'upu?ich. My name is **Samantha Touchie** and I have been learning the language for about six years. It has always been my dream to teach the language one day, much like my naniqsu did.

Since mid-November I have been spending time with the q̄wayac'ik̄?iis daycare (hitacu daycare) and working with **Michelle Ralston** and **Sandra Louie**. Our routine is free playtime and crafts from 9-10 a.m. and engaging with the kids (I incorporate language as much as I can). Around 10 a.m., we have snack time and then circle time.

#### Circle Time Includes:

- Daily prayer
- Calendar (season/month/week-day/count up to the day)
- Colours (what colour shirt are you wearing?)
- Alphabet song
- Weather

### Activities we have done

During circle time we'll sometimes

read a book. The kids' favourite book is 'Brown bear, brown bear what do you see'. While I read it I'll use quu?as words instead of the colour and animal to help them catch on to their colours and animals.

We have been working on baking sapnin together, and immersing them completely in the language.

We also go for walks on the beach or play in the gym.

I've had about two months with the kids so far, and I see so much improvement. They are so eager and willing to repeat what I say and it brings so much joy to Michelle, Sandra and myself.

Over the past while I have been labeling things around the Daycare so Michelle and Sandra can learn as well.

Michelle was eager to sing Christmas carols so we worked on those with the kids. During our walks we'll discuss what animals we see along the way, and during playtime in the gym, we've started introducing action words.

When I first started, the kids were very shy. They have since warmed up to me, and I see such a big difference now. Working with them is one of the highlights of my day, and I am very excited to collaborate more with



*yaacuk̄wīitin hitinqis*

Michelle and create more activities to do.

We try to meet up once a week and create next weeks' daily plans for crafts and baking, and also discuss

introducing more things for circle time.

Hearing the kids speak the language is such an enriching experience and I am so thankful to be working with them!



**Asya Touchie**  
*SOCIAL SERVICES & CULTURE & HERITAGE*

## Youth Program Keeping Our Children Busy and Healthy

**T**hanks to our Youth Worker **Logun Moe**, Community Wellness Worker **Gloria Valentine** and our Recreation Worker **Sandra Louie**, our youth have participated in many events since July, 2018.

The Youth Program is currently running after school with special events on some Pro-Development Days and Breaks. The Youth Program has incorporated incentives for our youth to

gain more skills in taking initiative and supporting others. This has worked well with our youth, and they are excited to be learning more about these areas.

The Youth Program has been busy fundraising for the events they want to attend, and hosted a Bake Sale and a Bottle Drive in January. By fundraising and applying for grants, the Youth Program had the earned the

opportunity to spend a day and a half at Mt. Washington Ski Resort to enjoy snow activities such as skiing and tubing!

Our Youth also has the opportunity to spend time at Hoobiye, the Nisgaa New Year in Vancouver, which allowed them to witness many nations and communities coming together to share their cultural knowledge, as well as songs and dances with others.

## Department continues condition assessment of assets



**Spencer Touchie**

### ASSETS

By Spencer Touchie  
*Assets Manager*

The Assets Department has been continuing its work as mentioned in the Umacuk with the assets condition assessment. This phase of the condition assessment will let us get a, “snapshot” of the condition of all our infrastructure related assets

for example: Water, waste water and storm systems, along with community buildings.

This is important for the Nation so we have a better idea of what to plan for moving forward, so our community’s infrastructure does not go to waste in the future.

### Fire Department

Celena Cook has been working to get our Fire Department back up and running.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact the Assets office at 250-726-2587 to get an application, or drop by the Fire Hall on Tuesday evenings. On this note, we are looking to catalogue assets at the Fire Department as well. If you were a former volunteer and have a radio or pager issued, please bring it into the office.

### Daycare Building Continues

Work also continues on the Qwayaciikis daycare building, as we continue to be proud of seeing our community members pursue their training goals through community led projects like this.

## Pursuit of treaty harvesting rights in park continues



**Alex Touchie**

### LANDS & RESOURCES

By Alex Touchie  
*Lands & Resources*

The Department of Lands and Resources has been working extensively on the final stages of an enforcement framework within Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, through which we will be able to implement Treaty harvesting rights in the park.

As per the Maa-nulth Treaty, our enrollees have the right to harvest resources in those parts of Pacific Rim National Park Reserve that are within

our Maa-nulth Area. However, in order to give effect to these rights, it was required that an effective administrative and enforcement framework was in place to facilitate those harvests.

At this time, the parties are finalizing the last pieces of this framework, and the Department should be able to provide materials to the public in the near future that explain the new framework and the steps that an individual would take should they wish to harvest in the park.

### Food Fish Program

The Department has also acquired a range of new assets to improve the Food Fish Program and is looking forward to the start of the 2019 program.

As was discussed in the last edition of the Umacuk, part of the new program is an application form and survey. These documents have been sent out along with each copy of the newspaper and are available in the Government Office in Hitacu as well as online on our website, ufn.ca, and on Facebook.

If anyone has trouble accessing the application and survey through any of these sources, please don’t hesitate to contact the office at (250) 726-7342 for assistance!

## Fire Department

Continued from page 1

transitioning from the previous arrangement where the Campbell River Fire

Dispatch Centre was receiving notification of any fires on YG lands, so that the Ucluelet Fire Department will now receive those calls directly, which is expected to result in faster response times.

## Executive supports “Head Start” program for children

Ucluelet First Nations’ government Executive fully supports the Aboriginal Head Start On-Reserve program (AHSOR).

AHSOR is a program that supports activities focused on early childhood learning and development for First Nations children from birth to age six and their families. The goal is to support programming that is designed and delivered by First Nations communities to meet their unique needs and priorities.

Ucluelet First Nation Daycare Supervisor Michelle Ralston and her team are already working on this program, and it is expected to take several years to fully implement all of its aspects.

### Why is AHSOR Important?

- Since early life is critical to lifelong health, programs focus on early childhood development, in a culturally appropriate manner, to support the spiritual, emotional, intellectual and physical growth of a child.

- It supports and encourages children to enjoy life-long learning.

- It supports parents, guardians and extended family members as the primary teachers.

- It encourage parents and the broader First Nations community to play a role in planning, implementing and evaluating the AHSOR program.

- It builds partnerships with other community programs and services to enhance the program’s effectiveness.

- It encourages the best use of community resources for children, parents, families and communities.

All AHSOR programs include six components: Culture and Language; Education; Health Promotion; Nutrition; Social Support; and Parent and Family Involvement.

### Culture and Language

“(Culture and language) is the foundation of both individual and collective identity and its erosion can adversely affect mental health and well-being, leading to depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and even suicide.” Social Determinants of Health – National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health.

Languages are how cultures convey meaning. First Nations languages in BC have experienced a century of language repression, followed by decades of neglect. While the AHSOR program cannot undo this loss of language, its focus on culture and language - part of the health of communities - plays a positive role in a child’s development.

The culture and language component allows First Nations children to experience their cultures and learn their languages.

Activities give children a sense of belonging and an identity as a First Nations person.

### Education

Education is a key social determinant of health and, especially in the early years, can have a major influence on the health and quality of an individual’s life. The history of education for First Nations people in BC (and Canada) is marked significantly by fear and pain, which has affected children, families and communities. These feelings present obvious difficulties for encouraging learning.

The education component promotes life-long learning with activities that encourage a child’s readiness to learn. Activities also focus on the physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual and social development needs of children. Community members, including Elders, are involved in helping with early literacy activities, such as printing and recognizing sounds and words.

### Health Promotion

The health promotion component encourages children and families to have a healthy lifestyle. Programming promotes physical activity, such as playground activities and traditional games. Staff promotes self-care, such as helping children to brush their teeth, and encourage appropriate assessments for children (for example, vision and hearing testing). Programming also includes visits with health professionals such as nurses (for immunizations), dental hygienists, speech therapists and physicians. Parents and families are also supported with access to health professionals.

### Nutrition

Nutrition is an important part of healthy living. Good food can improve an individual’s health and poor or inadequate food can undermine health. Good eating habits established early can lead to better health throughout life.

While food security can be an issue for some First Nations people, providing information about nutrition and healthy eating to children and their caregivers is key to long-term health.

Programming offers nutritious snacks and meals and provides children with opportunities to participate in traditional food gathering activities. Nutritionists and other health professionals provide information on healthiest choices.

### Social Support

Social support is an important social determinant of health. Quite simply, the support of family and community is critical in determining an individual’s health. Many

Continued on page 8

Celena Cook, Assistant to the YG ER Response Program, says “The Ucluelet Fire Department would like to come into the community for two drills and to tour the community to see all buildings that are non-residential, fire

hydrant placements, entrances and exits of the community buildings, and maps of the community.”

Cook adds that YG is awaiting grant approvals for the purchase of fire extinguishers for every home in Hitacu.

## This month's Pest Control topic: Bedbugs

# What you can do to keep bed bugs out of your home?

By Spencer Touchie  
Assets Manager

- Do not bring discarded mattresses, box springs, headboards or other upholstered furniture into your home.
- Thoroughly inspect used furniture for bed bugs before accepting and bringing them into your home.
- If you take in second hand clothing, ensure they are transported in sealed plastic bags. Clothes should be laundered in hot water immediately and dried in the drier on the hottest cycle. Heat at 50°C is effective at killing bed bugs and bed bug eggs.
- Leave luggage bags in the garage or in the bathtub while unpacking after a trip - bed bugs cannot crawl on slippery surfaces.
- After traveling and returning from a trip, launder clothing and bedding immediately in hot water.

- You can also make infested furniture undesirable by slashing the upholstered furniture and dismantling them.
- If you are discarding infested furniture post a sign on it stating "CAUTION: INFESTED WITH BED BUGS."
- Minimize the clutter in your home; remove books, boxes and clothing from floors to minimize bed bug hiding places. Store these items in sealed containers, as bed bugs do not chew through plastic or furniture.
- Freezing personal articles can also be effective at killing bed bugs but possibly not the bed bug eggs. The freezing method can take several days at very cold temperature below (-18°C) so this may not be feasible. Since there is much debate on the effectiveness of freezing, heat treatment is recommended.

### How does a home become infested with bed bugs?

Bed bugs are hitchhikers: They do not fly or jump, they only crawl.

They are brought into the home via infested furniture such as second-hand mattresses or couches, or by coming in through personal articles such as luggage and clothing after traveling and staying in infested accommodations.

Unlike other insect pests, bed bugs are not an indicator of cleanliness or sanitation, so having a clean home does not mean you cannot get bed bugs. However, if you do have bed bugs, having a clean and tidy home will make it easier to see bed bugs and control them.

Bed bugs do not favour fancier homes over modest homes. They are found anywhere where there are people.

### Signs of infestation

**Blood/Fecal Spots:** Small spots of dried blood are frequently observed when bed bugs are present. Since bedbugs feed on blood, their feces consist of digested blood and are reddish brown in colour.

**Shed exoskeletons:** Typical of all insects, bed bugs have a "skeleton" on the outside of their body. As they grow this is shed (like a snake sheds its skin) to accommodate a new, bigger body.

**Musty Odors:** With severe infestations, one can often detect a sweet sickly, musty odor.

**Bite Marks:** You may have red, itchy welts or rashes from bites. However, bite marks are not a reliable indication of a bed bug infestation.

If you suspect you might have bedbugs contact the Assets department so we may assist you.

**Apply Today!**

Applications are available online at [ufn.ca](http://ufn.ca) and on Facebook, in the Government Office, or can be mailed by calling (250) 726-7342

**Food Fish Program 2019**

**An Improved Traditional Foods Program**  
Based on feedback from participants in the 2018 Food Fish Program, the Department of Lands and Resources has established an entirely new approach to domestic fish programming for future years. The Food Fish Program 2019 is designed to more thoroughly integrate feedback from participants and is based on the principles of equity, efficiency, health and safety. The Department has acquired infrastructure to support the program, including new freezer storage and a new freezer truck and automated distribution systems.

As part of the new approach includes increased involvement of participants, equity and efficiency, citizens are now required to apply to participate in the Food Fish Program each year.

**Applications benefit participants!**  
Applications are only meant to ensure that participants are accounted for so that they can be included in the program as equitably and efficiently as possible.

**Apply by May 1st, 2019, to ensure that you don't miss out on any Food Fish!**

## Executive supports "Head Start" program for children

Continued from page 7

First Nations people experience strong social support - whether it's communities helping members who are suffering from an illness or tragedy, or family members at a maternity ward to support a new mother and baby.

While colonization, to some degree, has eroded the strong social supports that have always been central in the lives of First Nations, these supports can be rebuilt in our families and communities.

The social support component informs parents and guardians about the resources, services and health providers available to them to achieve a healthy and holistic lifestyle.

### Parental and Family Involvement

The parental and family involvement component recognizes and supports the role of parents and family as the primary teachers and caregivers of their children. Programming provides opportunities for participation in parent/guardian committees, monthly family dinners, children's field trips and other after hour activities. Outreach services and home visits support parental and family involvement by bringing programming into the home.

### What to Expect in the Future

The AHSOR program will continue to deliver services to BC First Nations by:

- Supporting capacity building of community-based workers in First Nations communities
- Providing ongoing technical support to communities (e.g. curriculum development, training and advice)
- Expanding work with partners to improve the outcomes for First Nations children.