



Yuutu?it?ath

HITACU ASSEMBLY

June 16, 2025 | 6:00pm | Cix^watin Centre Gym, hitacú / Zoom

Meeting Record

Participants

Chairperson: Shana Thomas

Citizens: Jack Touchie; Marjorie Touchie; Savannah McCarthy; Chenoa McCarthy; Alan McCarthy; Wojciech Malach; Wilson Jack; Marilyn Touchie; Edward Mack; Brenda Jack; Daniel Touchie; Michelle Touchie; Sheila Touchie; Pearl Touchie; Kim Touchie; Jeneva Touchie; Adam Touchie; Ashley McCarthy; Joe Thompson; Bernice Touchie; Clayton Jack; Tyson Touchie Jr.; Donna Jack; Reynold Touchie; Roy Barney; Larry Jack; Issac Cook; Daphne Peter; Abigail Patrick; Della (Abby) Patrick; Ezra Mack; Freddy Mack; Sarah Billy; Carter Graham; Charles Graham; Calvin Graham; David Graham; Jenna Miller; Gordon Taylor; Riley Touchie; Jaylen Touchie; Kenneth Miller; Caleb McCarthy; Alan McCarthy; Casen McCarthy; Daniel Cootes; James Frank Mack; Marylou De Ruiter; Cici De Ruiter; Levi Touchie; Ron George; Marlene Tomren; Pearl Ambrose; Susan Mundy; Celena Cook; Kathleen McCarthy; Amy Martin; Donna Louie; Christine McCarthy;

Members of Legislature: Charles McCarthy; Geraldine Touchie; Gertrude Touchie; Kirk McCarthy; Levana Mastrangelo; Jay Millar;

Support staff/other: Marissa Mack; Mike Watts (A/V Support); Kristine Brown, Chief Administrative Officer; John Rankin, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs; Jill Hamilton, Law Clerk; Rose Aday, Manager of Communications; Elena Rardon, Administrative Assistant; Cst. Yannick Harry, RCMP;

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order 6:03pm.

2. Opening Ceremonies/Welcoming remarks

Prayer by Jeneva Touchie. Opening remarks by President.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Proposed additions to agenda:

- 5 (a) Lands and resources specific to hitaçu real estate/property
- (b) Economic development
- (c) Access to Ucluth and Wya Beach
- (d) Fisheries

Motion (2025.07.10-01): to adopt the agenda as amended.

Moved by Kathleen McCarthy. Seconded by Wojciech Malach.

In favour: 15. Opposed: 0. Abstention: 0. Motion carried.

4. Executive Reports

Executive members provided short updates on their respective portfolios since the last assembly (March 17), which was followed by a question-and-answer period.

- Citizen Gordon Taylor (Gordon) raised the question of why President is permitted to hold an executive portfolio. It was confirmed to him that this is allowed under 2.1(b) the Legislature Rules of Order and Procedure Act.
- Citizen Marylin Touchie (Marylin) asked about ground water negotiations and if it's possible that YG wouldn't need to pay the District for water. The President responded that there is concern with YG's reliance on the District's water and that we are looking forward to secure water access for Yuulu?il?ath and generations to come.
- Marylin asked about Mamook activities. President confirmed that the Board is in the process of addressing overlap issues and dissolving. TFN, Ahousaht and Hesquiaht's tenures may be relinquished to put into conservancy.
- Marylin made a request that leadership ask for more GAP funds at premier's forum.
- Gordon directed comments to the President regarding the state of Long Beach Unit, including:
 - YG should raise environmental concerns with Parks Canada including fire hazards and removing invasive species and inquiring about doing silviculture work.
 - YG should consider pushing for more control of the Park like other Nations are doing in their territories.
 - Economic opportunities on our lands are lost due to the many restrictions imposed by Parks Canada.

- The President’s response was that the Long Beach Unit Management is a collaborative approach with TFN and Parks. There are ongoing discussions at the table regarding environmental concerns including the density of the second growth. Additionally, the President has been pushing for an apology from Parks Canada for expropriating land and moving Yuułu?ił?ath away from their Hahoulthee.
- Jack Touchie expressed concern that a non-native was accepted as a Yuułu?ił?ath citizen and how this isn’t in line with Yuułu?ił?ath processes, and that his name was allegedly used without his permission in a YG newsletter in reference to the approval of this specific citizenship application. He asked for some form of compensation. The chairperson confirmed to the Assembly that YG does not publish anything in newsletters related to specific citizenship applications. The chairperson committed to looking where this was seen and providing a response at the next assembly.
- The President confirmed that there is the ability in YG law to accept an individual as a citizen if there is a connection to the community in accordance with custom.

5. Other

A. Lands and Resources Specific to hitacu Real Estate

- Gordon Taylor (Gordon) stated that Lands and Resources has announced that there is no property available in hitacu and inquired about lots available in 2011, which lots were advertised, the names of applicants who applied in 2012, and the purchases of hitacu property between 2012 and today. The Chairperson committed to having a report for Gordon at the next assembly, noting that it is typical for some governments to only hold records for 7 years.
- Gordon asked the community to inform the Assembly if they have been approached to purchase their home, claiming that there are things going on that demean the value of property. He claimed that there is no fair market value fairness in hitacu. He requested that the Legislature have the President retract his quote “the Taylor family is not permitted to buy any land”.
- Gordon said he would like to enforce the code of conduct against the President for the purchase of real estate in hitacu without giving opportunity to citizens to apply for the lots. He asked the Legislature to review the code of conduct. The Chairperson informed Gordon of the complaint process available under Part 6 of the Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Act.

B. Economic Development

- Citizen Gordon Taylor expressed that he hasn't heard any updates from YG's Group of Businesses and on the five-year plan. He has concerns that YG's Economic Development Act only focuses on the Group of Businesses and lacks citizen involvement related to business development.
- Levana Mastrangelo advised in response that the Economic Development Officer, Corey Rich, is available for citizens and entrepreneurs to help with business development. She noted we are currently reviewing Economic Development Act and structure.
- The President emphasized the importance of the corporate veil for the protection of the Government. He agreed that economic opportunity has been limited due to the current structure being an impediment, and that is why the Government is having the legislation and structure reviewed. The President further explained that YG is fully in support of citizen entrepreneurship, including through NEDC funding and the services of the economic development officer.
- The Chairperson noted that the CEO of the YFN Group of Companies should be in attendance at the AGA in September to answer questions.

C. Access to Ucluth and Wya beach

- Citizen Kimberly Touchie raised concerns about access for citizens to Ucluth and Wya beach. She inquired as to why it's not open year-round for citizens. She raised concerns about non-citizens living and camping at the yurts. Kimberly stated she believes it is a disservice to both tourists and non-employed citizens when citizens are not prioritized for employment and access to their own lands. She respectfully requested that year-round access to treaty settlement lands, including Ucluth and Wya Beach, be granted to citizens; and further, that employment opportunities and accommodations are a priority as well. She inquired as to what steps leadership is taking to address these issues.
- The President stated that he can relay the concerns, but he can't speak to work being done by the Operating Board.
- The Chairperson confirmed that these issues, including consistent and convenient access to TSL year-round, ensuring equal opportunity for citizens for residency and employment, and making sure that the gate is not locked for 10 months of year, will be brought forward to the CEO of the Group of Companies.

D. Fisheries

- Citizen Gordon Taylor raised concerns with food fish being gutted, why there is no roe available and what happens to the by-catch.
- Gordon inquired about food fish contracts since we became treaty, how many of those were tendered, and the names of successful tenders from 2011 to today.
- The President confirmed contract process for food fish. With respect to by-catch, he explained that every fish caught should be coming back to YG and there is a no-discard policy within the contracts. He further explained the reason for gutting fish is to avoid distributing belly-burnt fish, and so citizens, particularly in urban areas, don't have to worry about discard. He added that the head is cut when vacuum packing as a cost-saving measure. He affirmed that the Government makes efforts to address all citizen needs and to ensure high-quality fish with freezer longevity is distributed.

6. Adjournment

The Chairperson confirmed that the next hitaçu assembly will be deemed the Annual General Assembly and it will be scheduled for mid-September.

Motion (2025.06.16-02): to adjourn.

Moved by Kathleen McCarthy.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.