



Yuutu?it?ath

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

March 16, 2026 | 6:00pm | Zoom

Meeting Record

Participants

Chairperson:	Shana Thomas
Members of Legislature:	Charles McCarthy, Levana Mastrangelo, Jay Millar, Celena Cook, Geraldine Touchie, Gertrude Touchie
Citizens:	Carrie George; Marjorie Touchie; Jack Touchie; Donna Jack; Larry Jack; Nick Touchie; Renny Touchie; Sheila Touchie; Jeneva Touchie; Gordon Taylor; Kimberly Baines; Leo Touchie; Pearl Touchie; Dyllon Surprenant; Ray Haipée; Raquelle Bob; Jenna Miller; Debbie Touchie; Marlene Tomren; Victoria Thompson; Brenda Jack; Kenneth Miller; Evelyn Louie; June McCarthy; Alan McCarthy; Christine McCarthy; Kimberly Touchie; Mary Lou De Ruiter; Bunny Baines; Cherie Perrin; Shanna Mastrangelo
Staff/Support:	Sunny Dhaliwal, Chief Administrative Officer; Elena Rardon, Manager of Communications; Jill Hamilton, Law Clerk; Mike Watts, A/V Support; Carey Cunneyworth, Director of Culture, Language and Heritage; Judy Ventry, Director of Health and Social Services; Sophie Gonthier, IGA Advisor; Asya Touchie, Director of Education and Youth; Spencer Touchie, Director of Capital Infrastructure and Asset Management; Sean Reid and Daniel Healey, KPMG;

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 6:01pm.

2. Opening Ceremonies/Welcoming remarks

Prayer by Jeneva Touchie. Opening comments by the President.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Additions: Motions (8a), YFN Group of Companies and Economic Development Opportunities (8b)

Motion (2026.03.16-01): to adopt the agenda as amended.

Moved by Pearl Touchie. Seconded by Alan McCarthy.

In favour: 11. Opposed: 0. Abstained 0. Motion carried.

4. Annual Report 2024-2025

a. Presentation of Audited Annual Financial Statements

Auditor Sean Reid of KPMG presented the audited financial statements for the 2024–2025 fiscal year.

Citizen Gordon Taylor inquired whether the audit was conducted in accordance with approved standards, whether any high-risk areas were identified, whether any funds were spent without authorization, and whether programs were delivered economically and efficiently.

Sean confirmed that the audit was conducted in accordance with applicable standards, that no high-risk areas were identified, and that no unusual transactions were noted. He also clarified that the engagement was a financial audit and did not include a value for money assessment. Materiality was \$450,000 but the testing threshold for errors was \$22,500.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Sunny Dhaliwal, confirmed that expenses for the 2024-2025 fiscal year were spent in accordance with the principle of value for money.

b. Presentation of Department Services Reports

CAO presented highlights from the Annual Report for 2024-2025.

Citizen Gordon Taylor reminded the Legislature that Canada's forestry sector has been pummeled by low lumber prices and American tariffs. The Crown is encouraging treaty members to get involved with logging. His view is that we should never get into logging. His question was, given the current state of the forestry industry and the Canada/US dispute, why would we get involved with cut blocks?

President McCarthy confirmed that we have an opportunity for forestry operations involving a 92,000 cubic metre undercut in the Nahmint area. His view is that it is better to have the option to undertake forestry operations rather than watch the economic opportunity disappear. He noted that members of the community forest have made upwards of \$5 million each. He clarified that it is an undercut and that we are not looking at harvesting any of our TSL.

Citizen Jack Touchie commented that West Main used to cut through Clackamucus and a secondary logging road was built. The new roads they built still cut into the corner of Yuułu?il?ath lands.

Chuck McCarthy responded that Saunders bypassed certain areas so they would not have to pay stumpage on fibre that went to the dump. The report touches on the ongoing negotiations for specific claims in Clackamucus. Compensation is being negotiated based on the cubic metres that went through.

5. Presentation of draft Annual Budget Act, 2025-2026 Amendment Act No. 2

CAO presented the draft budget amendment for 2025-26.

Citizen Gordon Taylor raised a concern that some individuals in the community aren't registered or are unable to register on their own, and stated that we need to be inclusive of all, regardless of their mental ability. He asked how we will reach out to individuals who aren't currently registered.

CAO confirmed that work is underway through social services to make the citizenship application process easier.

President McCarthy noted that we have an outreach worker to help individuals who need support and that there has been an ongoing effort.

6. Presentation of draft Annual Budget Act, 2026-2027

CAO presented the draft annual budget act for 2026-27.

Citizen Gordon Taylor said he watched a Legislature meeting where the Legislature approved the appointment of the CAO as Acting HR Manager. He noted that this is a conflict, and an HR Manager typically requires a master's degree and four years of management experience.

The CAO confirmed he is not performing the duties of HR Manager. HR support is being provided by an external consultant, and the organization is currently reviewing what the HR department should look like.

Mr. Taylor raised a concern about housing development cuts. The CAO acknowledged the concern and confirmed that we are looking at other funding sources, including Build Canada Homes and CMHC.

Mr. Taylor inquired about how we are storing emergency items and raised the importance of water storage. He suggested reviewing water consumption, freshwater rainfall, and groundwater aquifers. He noted that the Nation is expected to govern Mt. Ozzard and emphasized the need to consider water rights and the impacts of severe weather. He suggested that the Legislature consider implementing rainwater collection in residential developments.

The President responded that about a year and a half ago, the Nation obtained three sea cans containing freeze-dried food, generators, beds, and tents. Regarding aquifers, he noted that negotiations are underway to secure water for the Nation, with a focus on long-term water security over the next 25–50 years. He added that discussions with the Province are ongoing.

Mr. Taylor added that the Nation should consider establishing a volunteer fire department. He noted that without an active fire department, insurance costs for citizens and YG are higher and could be reduced with a volunteer service. He emphasized the importance of self-sufficiency.

7. Executive Reports

Executive members in attendance provided short updates on their respective portfolios since the last assembly on December 8.

Citizen Shanna Mastrangelo inquired about the provincial funding cuts for housing and whether this means YG's housing program will be cancelled. Levana Mastrangelo confirmed that the recent BC housing funding cuts were specific to the 30-unit construction of homes in hitaçu, not YG's housing program. The President added that alternative funding is being sought to move the project forward.

Citizen Gordon Taylor asked what records we have regarding the number of citizens affected by the toxic drug crisis. The President responded that it has become apparent that citizens who live in urban areas have died, representing a large number of Nuuchahnulth people. YG is working with NTC, which has a Downtown Eastside presence in Vancouver dealing with the crisis. It is a serious problem for our people and is a priority. Gertrude Touchie added that there are ongoing efforts to get help, including through various grants and NTC, but the numbers of those affected are not shared with us.

Mr. Taylor commented that, with respect to the update on new additions to lands, any new lands should require environmental review. The President responded that new additions to Treaty Lands, including the new land purchases on Port Albion Road and Nahmint, would have to go through the process identified in the Treaty.

Mr. Taylor commented that, with respect to the update on YG's long-term water and wastewater planning, YG should move away from municipal-type agreements and become more self-sufficient, including training citizens in these areas. The President noted that installing sewer and water infrastructure costs approximately \$9 million, which creates challenges in developing lands. We are looking at water security options, including potentially adding an additional line from Ucluelet to Port Albion.

Mr. Taylor asked Levana Mastrangelo about repairs to rental units, particularly for elders, and noted that CMHC homes need to be brought up to standard before being transferred to citizens. He inquired whether that practice is currently taking place. Levana responded that we have a limited scope of funds from CMHC, but we do everything we can to ensure homes meet CMHC standards. The new housing society, once established, would open the door to additional grants. The Director of Capital Infrastructure and Asset Management added that each year we have tangible capital asset replacement reserves in accordance with CMHC operating agreements. This includes regular inspections to ensure buildings are properly maintained. In addition, a random selection of houses is inspected every couple of years to assess conditions, and we have been meeting standards. We have also been applying for repair funding as it becomes available, although these are highly competitive processes. With respect to citizen-owned homes, the homeowner repair grant program is available (\$5,000 once every five years). We have been finalizing a number of renovations and retrofits before the end of the fiscal year, including energy efficiency upgrades.

Mr. Taylor suggested that a Mr. Burley altered the flow of the harbour with a land bridge, impacting the harbour and preventing the mosquito fleet from crossing, as well as affecting the ability to harvest seafood within the harbour. As a homeowner in

Millstream, he noted that he had to pay \$27,000 to install a sewage treatment system. He identified this as an area of concern that government should investigate. He further noted that certain homes in Millstream have received federal orders to install sewage treatment systems due to raw sewage in the harbour. Mr. Taylor also commented that, when considering land interests, there should be efforts to limit the sale of land on Vancouver Island to U.S. citizens. The President responded that the land bridge may date back to logging activity, possibly during the McMillan Bloedel times. Regarding sewage in Millstream, this has been an ongoing issue and the area has been identified as a hotspot where harvesting is not permitted. There is some hope that the harbour may become harvestable again, but it remains an ongoing concern. Both YG and DFO continue to take samples from the harbour.

Mr. Taylor noted to Levana Mastrangelo, regarding the ACRD Transportation Committee, that there are opportunities for First Nations entrepreneurs to operate e-buses in communities, and there should be efforts to pursue this.

Mr. Taylor commented that it was good to see the canoe journey being properly implemented so the Nation does not miss out.

Mr. Taylor also noted that he remembers funding being received for stormwater management and emphasized the importance of ensuring that stormwater management is addressed.

8. a) Motions

Citizen Gordon Taylor confirmed that he received the response to the email he submitted in December. He added that in 2011 or 2012, YG created 12 residential lots. He stated that his request was for the Legislature to review the Executive's approval of the land transfer forms to ensure all actions were legal, and to confirm whether these 12 lots were available and what was registered in 2014. He noted that low-ball offers to citizens should not be occurring. He also suggested that the Government should have six Legislature members and five Executive members for a total of 11.

Chairperson acknowledged Mr. Taylor's concerns regarding land transactions, ensuring citizens are protected and that fair market value is paid. The chairperson also referred Gordon to the FOIPPA process to request information.

President responded that back in 2011-12, the Executive advertised in the Umacuk that the decision was made to sell vacant lots for \$2500 and occupied lots for \$1. Land transfers at the time were posted in the foyer at the office. He added that the Constitution states the Legislature is made up of 8 members.

The Chairperson advised Mr. Taylor that the CAO is prepared to meet with him to address his concerns.

b) YFN Group of Companies and Economic Development Opportunities

Citizen Gordon Taylor expressed concern that the current Economic Development Act (EDA) does not adequately support individual entrepreneurs, and focuses primarily on businesses operated by YG. He noted that there is no specific law recognizing or

supporting citizen-led businesses or entrepreneurship.

Mr. Taylor commented that economic development opportunities for citizens are limited. He referenced past examples of citizen-led initiatives, including a family-operated surf shop and the Thornton Hotel, to demonstrate citizens contributing meaningfully to economic growth. He emphasized the importance of creating more opportunities for citizen participation in the economy.

Mr. Taylor shared that he is in the process of establishing a new not-for-profit legacy fund focused on e-transportation. He suggested that non-Native residential developments should contribute significant revenue back to the Nation. He identified several areas with potential for job creation, including sewage treatment, wave energy, wind and solar power, and stormwater management. He indicated that he plans to send a letter to Canada to explore a potential partnership, including the use of a 158-acre parcel of land adjacent to treaty land near West Main. He noted that his proposed corporation and legacy fund could create 20–40 jobs.

Mr. Taylor stated that over the past four years he has attempted to contact the Executive to request a meeting but has not received a response. He emphasized the need to adapt to climate change through residential development, stormwater management, power production, waste management, and the use of drone technology.

Mr. Taylor added that housing affordability is a key issue, and he believes his legacy fund could help address this challenge but it needs approval of the Government.

The Chair summarized that she heard a need for the EDA to create space that prioritizes citizens' ability to act as entrepreneurs, rather than focusing solely on YG-operated businesses.

Levana Mastrangelo noted that this is an appropriate time to be having these conversations and to hear directly from citizens about the opportunities they would like to see. She added that further citizen engagement will take place.

Levana Mastrangelo noted that she will meet with Mr. Taylor separately, related to the ACRD Transportation Committee, to discuss his concerns.

9. Adjournment

The Chair noted that the next Assembly is scheduled to take place on June 15 and will be held in person with a Zoom option.

Motion (2026.03.16-02): to adjourn.

Moved by Gordon Taylor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08pm.