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Yuutu?it?ath

Umacuk YG News

Volume 16, Issue 7 | July 2026

www.ufn.ca

What's New?

Page 1
In This Issue

Page 3
Education Celebration

Page 7
Burn Demonstration

Page 9
Patient Travel Update

Page 11
OCP Update

Page 13
New Staff Highlights

Events

Tuesdays and Thursdays
Community Breakfast
at the Cix^watin Centre

July 24-26
Ukee Days

August 3
YG Offices Closed

August 4
YG Offices Re-Open

August 5-9
Tlu-piich Games

September 18-20
Yuutu?it?ath Day Celebration

In this issue, we have photos from events in June, including a FireSmart burn demonstration and the Education Celebration. Congratulations to all of the Yuutu?it?ath students for completing the 2025-2026 school year!

We also have an important update about changes to the Medical Patient Travel system, as well as an update on the Official Community Plan (OCP) process. We're also happy to welcome two new staff members to Yuutu?it?ath Government!

Finally, mark your calendars! Yuutu?it?ath Day celebrations will take place from **Friday, September 18 to Sunday, September 20** this year.

Please note, Yuutu?it?ath Government offices will be closed on **Monday, August 3** for B.C. Day Long Weekend. Offices will re-open on **Tuesday, August 3** for normal hours.

Read on for more events, services, and information.

Cix^watin Centre, huupatu Centre and hilstiis hupii?ut Satellite Office

CLOSED

MONDAY, AUGUST 3
FOR
BC DAY LONG WEEKEND

Government Offices will reopen Tuesday, August 4.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CLASS GRADUATES!

GRADE 7

Lincoln Keitlah Louie
Kiana McCarthy
Chenoa McCarthy-Tom
Timmy McCarthy-Tom
Syler Mundy
Travis Touchie
Christopher Williams

Congratulations

GRADE 12

Jonquil Currey
Mathew Jack
Bella Jack
Jordan Louie
Kaila Louie
Monty Mundy
Issabella Noddin
Michael Stanley
Jaysen Touchie
Hector Williams
Katherine Williams

POST-SECONDARY

Jasmine Freeze - Community Mental Health Worker
Raven Gagnon - ER Nursing
Audrey Haipee - Level B Welding
Shannon McCarthy - Welding (All Levels)
Trisha Miller - Health Care Aide

Celebrating Yuułu?iŋ?ath students

The 2026 Education Celebration was a hit in hita'cu

Photos by: Elena Rardon



Youngsters pose for the camera before dinner starts at the Education Celebration.

Yuułu?iŋ?ath Government hosted its annual Education Celebration at the Cix'atin Centre on June 18, 2026.

This is an opportunity for Yuułu?iŋ?ath citizens to celebrate students from pre-school to post-secondary and recognize their accomplishments over the 2025-26 school year.



Grade 7 graduates are cheered on as they enter the Cix'atin Centre Gym.



Guests of all ages enjoyed the photo booth at the Education Celebration.



Kali Touchie-Maher, the executive assistant for the Department of Education and Youth, cuts the celebratory cake for this year's Education Celebration.



Performing the dinner song before dinner is served at the Education Celebration.







Ronan Currey receives the Grade 8 Scholarship award from Education Services manager Jennifer Touchie.



Karen Williams receives the Grade 11 Scholarship award from Education Services manager Jennifer Touchie.



Jonquil Currey receives the ʔaʔasmacʔak Marjorie Touchie Award from Marjorie Touchie. This award recognizes a Grade 12 student who is graduating and transitioning into postsecondary education, trades, or training.



Trisha Miller is congratulated for completing her Health Care Aide program by Education Services manager Jennifer Touchie.



Khia Little and Sadie Currey receive the sičquuʔuʔ ("Fin Coming Around the Bend") Award from Gertrude Touchie. This award supports Yuuʔuʔiʔaʔh students who are engaged in language and/or cultural learning.

Protect your home from wildfire

FireSmart demonstration hosted in hitaču

Photos and story by: Elena Rardon

A little rain didn't stop the fire from burning in hitaču last month.

On June 25, 2026, Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government held a FireSmart demonstration in collaboration with Ucluelet Fire Rescue, with the goal of showcasing how different building materials and FireSmart practices can better protect homes during wildfire situations.

The demonstration involved setting small fires in front of two different house models. The first FireSmart house model was built with fibre-cement siding and an asphalt roof. A fire-resistant plant was planted beside it.

The second house model, meanwhile, was built with vinyl siding, vinyl corners, and a vinyl roof. A cedar sapling was planted beside it.

Twenty minutes after ignition, the fire in front of the FireSmart home model had been extinguished and the house model had very little damage. The non-FireSmart home model was almost completely destroyed by fire.

Ben Shuster, YG's FireSmart coordinator, explained to the crowd that the immediate zone around the house (1.5 metres) is the most important area to focus on when it comes to preventing the spread of wildfires.

"If you can take one thing home today, it's super simple: if you've got firewood, move it away from the side of your home," said Shuster. "If we can all just remember that 1.5 metres around the whole home of nothing combustible, it will make a huge difference."

If you missed this FireSmart demonstration, a video is available on our YouTube page!



Jonathan Parlee from Ucluelet Fire Rescue watches the two house models during the FireSmart demonstration.



This photo shows the difference between the two house models after 20 minutes. While the fire on the left side has died out, the fire on the right side has spread to the structure.



Ben Shuster, FireSmart Coordinator, and Kendra Stoner, Emergency Program Manager, set up for the FireSmart demonstration.



Jonathan Parlee of Ucluelet Fire Rescue knocks down the fire after the demonstration has ended.



Fire Box-trained citizen Rose Aday knocks down the fire during a FireSmart demonstration in hitaču on June 25, 2026.



Rose Aday and Katie Burden, Fire Box trained volunteers, turn off the hydrant using tools from the Fire Box.



Spectators got to take home their own plush versions of Ember the Fox, FireSmart's mascot.

2026

TLU-PIICH GAMES



JOIN US THIS SUMMER FOR
THE RETURNING TLU-PIICH
GAMES!

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 5th-9th 2026
Port Alberni, BC.



Events and venues to be determined.
Keep an eye out for registration forms and
volunteer sign-up sheets.



Hosted by the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council



Yuutu?it?ath Government OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN

JULY 2026 UPDATE

WHERE WE ARE NOW

The UFN Official Community Plan (OCP) update is progressing well. To date, we have completed a background review, engaged with leadership, staff, and community members, and drafted the OCP foundations, including a vision statement and guiding principles. We thank the community for the feedback provided thus far, which has been very valuable for the team.

WHAT'S NEXT

The project team is currently refining the draft OCP foundations with the project committee, Elders, and community members to ensure they reflect community priorities. In addition, we are beginning to develop the OCP outline and key components that will shape the updated plan. Feedback from the community will continue to guide the plan as it moves forward and the team is preparing for the next phase of community engagement in Fall 2026.

SURVEY

The initial survey will remain open until August 15th, 2026, and will be followed up with more detailed surveys on several topics in the fall. You can find the survey online at www.ufn.ca/ocp.





YUULU?IŁ?ATH SUMMER LANGUAGE CLASSES

Are you interested to learn Nuu-chah-nulth language in West Barkley dialect?
Drop-in to an online language class!

huuhtakšiihah quuquu?aca

We are learning to speak Nuu-chah-nulth.

MONDAY

Where Are Your Keys Language Class

Weekly on Monday . 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Taught by maaxmawicimqa (Kimberly Baines) via Zoom.

Classes taught using a combination of the 'Where Are Your Keys' method, as well as written. Classes will use hand movements and repetition, but will also include written slides for visuals.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

Drop-in Language Class

Wednesday 5:30pm to 6:30pm

Thursday 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Taught by λaa?aqsa (Trinity Babichuk) via Zoom.

Classes taught using a combination of written method and memorization. Twice weekly sessions but both sessions will follow the same lesson plan. As the groups will likely be smaller, feel free to bring questions or topic suggestions. Classes run until August 13, then there will be a 2 week break.

Priority to Yuulu?ił?ath citizens. Contact language@ufn.ca for more information.

New Staff Highlights

Welcome to Yuułu?ił?ath Government Trisha Miller!

Trisha Miller has joined the Department of ʔuuʔaʔukʷiçʔaʔa (Health and Social Services) as a Health Care Assistant.

Originally from Ucluelet First Nation, Trisha has a professional background in health care, where she has gained valuable experience providing compassionate, person-centred care to individuals with a variety of needs.

In her role as Health Care Assistant, she supports patients with their daily activities, assists with personal care, monitors and reports changes in their condition, and works closely with nurses and other health-care professionals to ensure patients receive safe, high-quality care.

"I am passionate about helping others, treating people with dignity and respect, and making a positive difference in their lives," says Trisha. "I enjoy learning new skills and continuously developing my knowledge to provide the best possible care. I look forward to working with and learning from everyone."

Trisha can be reached at trisha.miller@ufn.ca.



Trisha Miller is Yuułu?ił?ath Government's new Health Care Assistant.

Photo submitted by: Trisha Miller



Yuułu?ił?ath Day Weekend!

Friday, September 18, 2026 to Sunday, September 20, 2026

Join us to celebrate all things Yuułu?ił?ath! This year's celebration is a multi-day event. Citizens are being called home to Yuułu?ił?ath ʔaʔuuʔi (traditional territory).

Keep an eye out for more event information!

Coming Soon!



NUU-CHAH-NULTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM

In partnership with PES: Pre-Employment Supports

UCLUELET OPEN HOUSE

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us for our NETP/PES Open House and learn about employment and training opportunities available through NETP/PES.

Meet our team and discover how we can support your career journey. We can help you set and achieve your employment goals, and will work together on your advancements big or small.

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026
UCLUELET NETP OFFICE
11:00AM-3:00PM

OPEN HOUSE DETAILS

FREE

- HOTDOGS
- HAMBURGERS
- HENNA & BUBBLES
- DOOR PRIZES



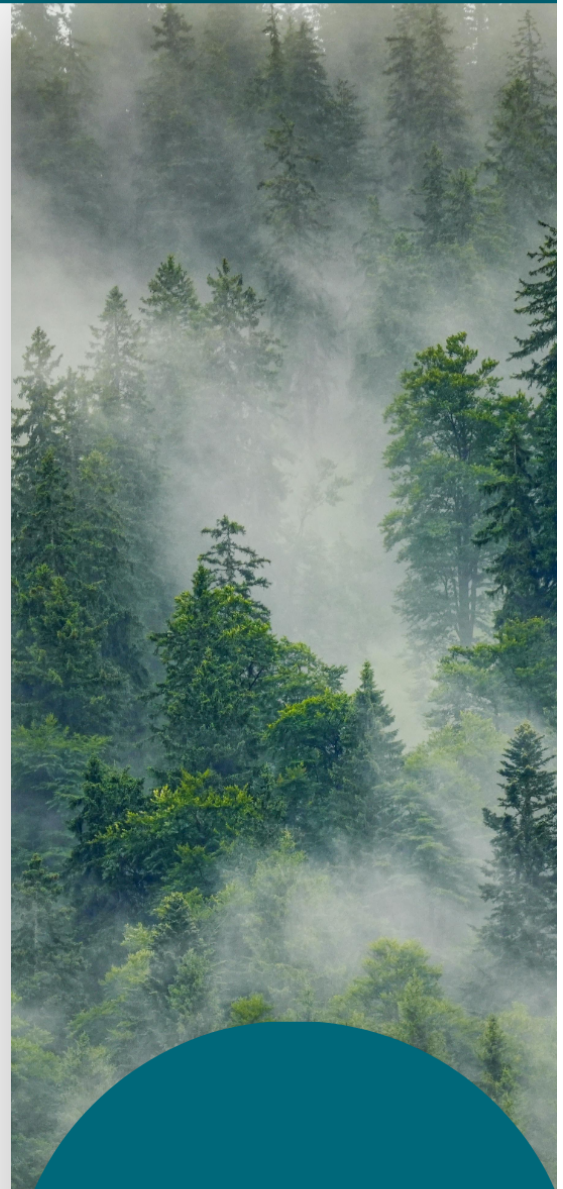
All community members welcome

For more information, please contact the NETP office at (250) 724-3131 or visit our website.

📞 (250) 723-1331

📍 #4 1636 Peninsula Rd

📍 Ucluelet, BC – NETP Office



**Unlock Your Potential with the
Nuu-chah-nulth Employment
& Training Program**

Funding provided in part by Government of Canada



New Staff Highlights

Welcoming to Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government Jayda Konnila!

Jayda Konnila has joined Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government in the Department of huuhtakšiihinʔaala (Education and Youth) as an Education Outreach Worker.

In this role, Jayda will provide specialized early intervention and developmental support for infants, children, and youth. She conducts home visits, facilitates culturally relevant playgroups, and helps families connect with specialists like speech or physical therapists.

Jayda previously worked as a teacher at Ucluelet Elementary School and has also worked with the Canucks Autism Network in Victoria.

Jayda says she enjoys working with children who have higher needs, including children on the autism spectrum.

"I've always felt a pull to work with kids with extra needs," she said. "I wanted to bring that into my professional career. When this opportunity came up with Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government, I knew it was exactly what I wanted to do."

Her favourite part of her job is being able to see the differences she can make in the lives of families and children.

"With the families I meet, I'm really excited to see the long-term success," she said. "Being able to reflect back on how far we've come is my favourite part of all the jobs I've had. It's those big wow moments."

Jayda was born in Campbell River and grew up in Victoria, but she loves the tight-knit community she has found on the West Coast of Vancouver Island.

"I love being able to go Co-op and know everyone there," she laughed. "I love those small community vibes. Everyone is looking out for each other here. I've made so many good and positive connections over the past year."

In her spare time, Jayda enjoys surfing, hiking, and bead working.



She can be reached at Jayda.konnila@ufn.ca or you can phone or text her directly at 250-217-4262.

"I want the community to know that they can reach out to me anytime," says Jayda.



Committee Vacancy

**Interested to get involved?
Join a Committee for the Yuułu?ił?ath Government!**

We encourage all interested to apply or submit a letter of interest.



We are looking for individuals to join our Treaty Implementation Committee

- The Treaty Implementation Committee provides information to the Legislature regarding Yuułu?ił?ath Government's rights and obligations under the Maa-nulth Treaty, including fulfillment of those obligations.
- The appointment will run until the first meeting of the Legislature following the next regular election (May 2027), with the possibility of reappointment.
- The Committee meets periodically as required.

Send your application or interest to:

Jill.Hamilton@ufn.ca

ufn.ca > [government](#) > [committees](#)



hita'cu Community **BREAKFAST!**

Cix^watin Centre Gym
July 9, 14, 16, 21 & 23 . 7:30am to 9:00am

Enjoy a fresh and nutritious breakfast to start the day!
Contact gloria.valentine@unbc.ca for more information.

National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHl) Volunteer Opportunity

Project Selection Advisory Council

The National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHl) exists to uphold and advance housing as a human right for all Indigenous Peoples living in urban, rural and northern communities from coast-to-coast-to-coast. NICHl will harness the extensive Indigenous housing expertise to co-design and co-deliver a national URN housing strategy, distribute resources to Indigenous housing projects and support wrap around services. Its governance, management and operational structures utilizes the strengths exhibited by Indigenous service organisations.

NICHl is currently reaching out to Indigenous housing experts from communities across Canada to source volunteers interested in joining the Project Selection Advisory Council (PSAC).

NICHl's Project Selection Advisory Council (PSAC) is an independent and nonpartisan body with a mandate to conduct an objective and fair selection process for URN funding. The PSAC is guided by criteria, as reviewed and affirmed by NICHl, which is used to identify and prioritize housing projects or developments eligible for program funding.

In this volunteer opportunity you will apply your expertise and share recommendations on Indigenous-led housing projects that may be eligible for funding under the above noted URN Strategy.

The goal is to have cross-cultural representation from First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people who are involved with and/or understand URN housing issues and the development of housing projects. Ideally, the Council will have gender balance and diversity; geographic balance with a national/regional perspective and representation from the North; expertise as needed to address unique project or development requirements, depending on geography and demographics based on immediate prioritized need, utilizing a sliding matrix scale.

The composition of the PSAC consists of seven (7) members and we are in the process of sourcing an additional seven (7) members who will be mentored by the existing Council. This cyclical framework will continue in the future so there is an on-going intake of new volunteers who are mentored by existing Council members. Council members volunteer for (24) twenty four months, with the possibility of extension.

Members of the PSAC are not directly compensated for their time since this is a voluntary opportunity. Council members do receive reimbursement for reasonable costs associated with necessary travel and accommodation to perform their duties.

The PSAC will be required to provide a complete list of prioritized projects/developments as determined using the described process for selection. NICHl will use this prioritized list to fund initiatives until all funding available for this round of the program has been expended.

As a precondition of being named to the Council and as an on-going requirement if appointed to the PSAC, members will:

- a) Observe the highest standards of impartiality, integrity and objectivity in their consideration of all potential initiatives.
- b) Apply fairly and with consistency, the criteria provided in assessing potential initiatives and meet eligibility for these initiatives.
- c) Establish a prioritized list of housing projects for recommendation.
- d) Acknowledge and agree, in writing, that there is no real or perceived conflict of interest with respect to holding a voluntary position with PSAC and declare if any real or perceived conflict arises during the course of their work.
- e) Acknowledge and agree, in writing, to maintain, in strict confidentiality, any information brought before Council members in the conduct of their work.
- f) Within one month after submitting the recommendations for selected projects, provide a report to NICHl that contains information on the process undertaken including the execution of the terms of reference, statistical data relating to the applications received, and their recommendations.

If you wish to volunteer and join a dedicated team focused on making a meaningful difference in our communities, **please forward your expression of interest and resume to careers@nichihousing.com no later than 1:00pm EST July 31, 2026.** In your submission, please self-identify and note if you are fluent in both official languages.

Please visit our website www.nichi.ca to learn more about NICHl, its successes, and future goals.

hiłstiis hupii?ut YG Services

July 2026



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday Sunday
		1 Statutory Holiday YG Offices Closed	2 Language Classes with maḥima 6:30pm to 8:30pm	3 Kimberly Touchie Outreach Support Coordinator 10:00am to 2:00pm	4
					5
6	7	8	9	10	11
					12
Counselling with Amber Severinon Available by app't. Mon - Fri (pls contact Satellite Office)					
13	14	15 YG meetings (H&SS office) 10:00am to 4:00pm	16 Language Classes with maḥima 6:30pm to 8:30pm	17 Office Closed	18
					19
20	21	22	23	24	25
					26
27	28	29	30	31 Youth Language Class with maḥima 6:30pm to 8:00pm	

*Services offered during regular operating hours of the Yuutu?it?ath Government Satellite hours, 9:00am to 2:00pm and by appointment from 2:00pm to 4:00pm, unless otherwise noted. Operating on the territory of the Tseshaht First Nation & Hupačas?ath First Nation.