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Yuutu?it?ath

Umacuk YG News

Volume 15, Issue 7 | October 2025

www.ufn.ca

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In this issue, we have a recap from Yuutu?it?ath Day weekend in September, including the house post raising and house post resting ceremonies. Yuutu?it?ath Government has now become one of the first First Nations governments in British Columbia to achieve a complete repatriation of artifacts from the Royal BC Museum and Canadian Museum of History.

We also welcome two staff members to the Department of Huuhtakšiihin?aała (we are always learning), Education and Youth.

With the Halloween season quickly approaching, we have information in this issue about two Halloween parties that will be hosted in hitaču and Port Alberni.

Please note that Yuutu?it?ath Government offices will be closed on **Monday, October 13** for the statutory holiday. Offices will re-open for regular business hours on **Tuesday, October 14**.

Read on for more events, services, and information.

CLOSED
Monday, October 13

Cixʷatin Centre, huupātu Centre & hiłstiis hupii?uł Satellite Office
will reopen Tuesday, October 14



This luncheon will focus on palliative care and the benefits of being prepared. Community Health Nurse Rachel Harding and Social Worker Nicole Burtini will be available to answer any questions.

ELDERS HEALTH LUNCHEON

**THURSDAY
OCTOBER
16**

SIXPLEX
COMMON AREA
HITAĆU
12:00PM



Questions? Email Nicole.Burtini@ufn.ca

Happy Yuułu?iŋ?ath Day!

Community celebrates Yuułu?iŋ?ath's independence with weekend of events

Images by: Elena Rardon

Last month was Yuułu?iŋ?ath Day, with a weekend full of events in hitaču and at kʷisitit.

Yuułu?iŋ?ath Day is the day of acknowledgement and celebration of Yuułu?iŋ?ath's independence. Activities included cedar weaving with Rose and Brian Wilson, bouncy castles for the kids, free haircuts, face painting and a photo booth at the Cixʷatin Centre Gym.

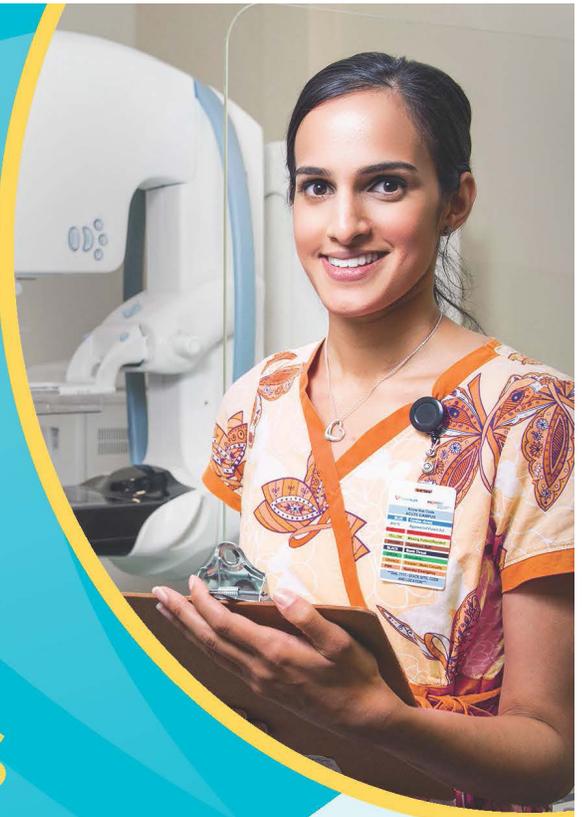
There were also beach games at kʷisitit and plenty of songs and dances throughout the weekend.

Āeekoo āeekoo to all of the event organizers, YG staff, volunteers, participants and citizens who joined the festivities last weekend. And thank you to Pacific Rim National Park Reserve for closing the beach so Yuułu?iŋ?ath citizens could connect to their ҺaҺuutŋ (traditional territory).









Mammograms Can Save Lives

The mobile mammogram coach is coming to a community near you.

Mammograms are available for women ages 40+. Take a positive step for your health and book a free screening mammogram.

Visit www.screeningbc.ca to learn more.

Upcoming Visits:

Date: October 15, 2025

Location: Ucluelet Community Centre
500 Matterson Drive

Time: 3:00pm to 5:45pm

To book an appointment, contact: moa@ufn.ca or (250) 726-7343



Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ celebrates repatriation

New house post raised during Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Day celebrations

Written by: Elena Rardon

Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government has become one of the first First Nations governments in British Columbia to achieve a complete repatriation of artifacts from the Royal BC Museum and Canadian Museum of History.

The repatriation process, which has been ongoing for Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ since before treaty, was concluded during Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Day Weekend with the raising of a new house post in hitaču.

More than 300 years ago, four house posts stood at the Chief's house in the village of kʷisitit. Each post represented an ancestor or important spiritual figure to the Chief's family: the Chief (ḥaawit-sa), the powerful warrior (ṣaḥmaquuh), the playful one (ṣiiqatapi), and the Queen (ḥakum).

With the amalgamation of the Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ in the late 1800s, the house posts were moved to hitaču and put up at the new Chief's house. In 1911, when the posts were owned by a father and son named Adzick and Joe, the posts were acquired by Dr. Charles Newcombe, a collector for the Royal BC Museum in Victoria.

In Victoria, the posts were put on display outside the museum in Thunderbird Park. They were repainted, their heads were filled with concrete, and they were left to sit in the elements. Some of them even had names and initials scratched



The new ḥakum house post is raised in the Mini-Bighouse on September 20, 2025. Image credit: Elena Rardon



The new ḥakum house post stands beside a photo of the original ḥakum, which has now been laid to rest. Image credit: Elena Rardon

into the wood by members of the public.

Eventually, the four posts were split up. While ḥaawit-sa, ṣaḥmaquuh, and ṣiiqatapi were kept on display, ḥakum was left in the basement storage of the museum for many years. Eventually, she eroded and deteriorated to the point where she could no longer stand on her own.

In the 1990s, Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ began negotiating with the museum to repatriate some of their artifacts. Two of the house posts were brought back to hitaču in 2022, and the remaining two — including ḥakum — were brought home in 2025. The house posts were set up in the Mini-Bighouse.

Because ḥakum could no longer stand on her own, Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government held several Elders' Meetings to determine the correct protocol for replacing her.

"It was agreed upon with the elders and community that the best way to do this would be carve a new ḥakum post that represents the women of the community today," explained Carey Cunneyworth, Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ's director of ḥaahuupačakukqin?aata (Culture, Language and Heritage). "It was agreed that the original ancestor post would be laid to rest in her original village of kʷisitit."

The new ḥakum post was carved by Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ carver Clifford George and Tla-o-qui-aht carver Hjalmer Wenstob. There was also plenty of community input throughout the



The old ḥakum house post has been laid to rest in her former village site of kʷisitit̓s . Image credit: Elena Rardon

process. As a result, the new ḥakum post is almost identical to the original, aside from a few modern changes.

On September 20, 2025, the new ḥakum post was officially raised at the Mini-Bighouse to stand beside the other house posts.

“I see this post as a strong representation of the community coming together to do something powerful,” Cunneyworth said during the house post raising ceremony. “I’m really happy to see it raised here to stand with its ancestors.”

On September 21, 2025, a ceremony was held at kʷisitit̓s to lay the old ḥakum post to rest at her former village site. A plaque written in English and Nuu-chah-nulth marks the resting place of ḥakum and tells her story.

The Yuuʕuʔiʔath̓ Language team has written a book called wəʕaʕiʕəma ʕamaʕinʔi (The House Posts Come Home) to share the story of the house posts. Copies of this book can be picked up in the Cultural Library.

Today, all items identified in the Maa-nulth treaty as belonging to Yuuʕuʔiʔath̓ (more than 80 in total) have been successfully repatriated and are now on display in hitaʕu—including those previously negotiated to remain in museum

collections. Yuuʕuʔiʔath̓ Government is one of the first First Nations in British Columbia to achieve a complete repatriation from the Royal BC Museum and Canadian Museum of History.

Only two large, delicate cedar mats remain in storage at the Canadian Museum of History until appropriate storage space is available.



A plaque at kʷisitit̓s tells the story of ḥakum. Image credit: Elena Rardon



HALLOWEEN PARTY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

CIX^WATIN CENTRE GYMNASIUM

hitaču

4:00 pm - 7:00pm



**Photo Booth, Games,
Treats, Music, Bubble
Tea and more!**





PORT ALBERNI
HALLOWEEN PARTY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30
ITALIAN HALL EVENTS CENTRE
4065 Sixth Avenue

Doors at 5:00 pm
Magic Show at 6:30pm

Hadlen the Magician Show,
Photo Booth, Sharky Balloons,
Cake Walk and more!

RSVP: Call (778) 942-0655 or email Yanny.Poillievre@ufn.ca

New Staff Highlights

Welcome to Yuułu?iŋ?ath Government Kali Touchie-Maher!

Kali (Salina) Touchie-Maher has joined Yuułu?iŋ?ath Government as the new Executive Assistant with the Department of Huuhtakšiihin?aała (we are always learning), Education and Youth.

Kali grew up in hitaču and comes from the Touchie/Williams family.

“My late mother was Susan Touchie, but with her passing after birth I was adopted by the late Emily Touchie,” says Kali. “My father was the late Alfred Maher, who came from Montreal but resided in Vancouver since I was born. My grandparents are Paul Touchie and Sally Williams.”

Kali previously worked with YG in the Department of nismaakukqin?aała (always our land), Lands and Resources, and recently worked in Public Works with Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation.

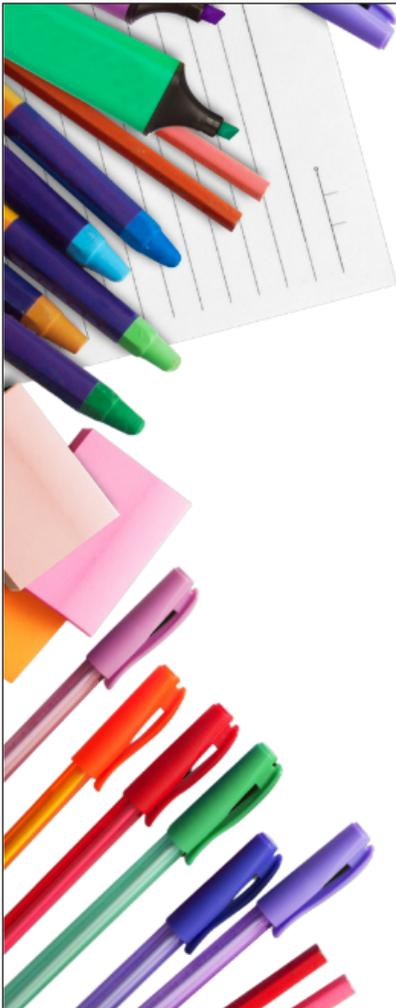
“My goal was always to work with kids,” says Kali. “I’m ecstatic



Kali Touchie-Maher, right, poses for a picture with her son, Matthew. Image credit: Kali Touchie-Maher

to work, learn and grow in Education with Asya and Jennifer.”

Kali can be reached at kali.touchie-maher@ufn.ca.



EDUCATION OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5
3:00pm to 5:00pm
CIX^wATIN CENTRE

Join the huuhtakšiihin?aała (Education and Youth) team for an open house in the foyer.

Make connections with the education team and learn about services and supports for students of all ages (including post-secondary).

Snacks will be provided!



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Email: Kali at kali.touchie-maher@ufn.ca
or Asya at asya.touchie@ufn.ca

HADLEN

MAGIC SHOW



An evening of illusion and wonder

Wednesday, October 29

Dinner 5:00pm | Show 6:30pm

Tickets: FREE

Venue: Cixwatin Gymnasium
700 Wya Road Hitaču, BC V0R 3A0

New Staff Highlights

Welcome to Yuułu?iŋ?ath Government Katie Burden!

Katie Burden has joined Yuułu?iŋ?ath Government (YG) in a permanent full-time role as Child and Youth Worker with the Department of Huuhtakšiihin?aała (we are always learning), Education and Youth.

Katie will be a familiar face to many through her work with YG's Summer Program. For the past eight years, she has worked within Yuułu?iŋ?ath Government alongside children and youth in various capacities, starting at q^wayačiik?iis Daycare.

"This work has strengthened my passion for supporting the growth, development, and



Katie Burden, left, has joined YG as a Child and Youth Worker. Image credit: Katie Burden

well-being of young Indigenous people," says Katie.

In her new role, she will be leading the After-School Program, which runs Monday through Friday. She will also be actively involved in the kakaŋinminŋ Program

"My goal is to provide accessible, engaging, and inclusive activities that support the needs and interests of children and youth in our community," says Katie. "I'm really looking forward to this next chapter and to working alongside all of you!"

Katie can be reached at katie.burden@ufn.ca.



SUBSTANCE USE OUTREACH

Sin from Westcoast Community Resources Society will be available for one-on-one sessions.

Weekly on Mondays . 10:00pm to 12:30pm
huuŋatu Health Centre
Drop-ins welcome!

For more information: contact Sin directly at sou@wccrs.ca
OR contact Kimberly Touchie at kimberly.touchie@ufn.ca or (250) 726-7343.



Port Alberni Cedar Headband Workshop

With facilitators Brian and Rose Wilson

Saturday, October 18 . 11:00am to 3:00pm

hiłstiis hupii?uł Satellite Office
(3203 Third Avenue)

Join facilitators Brian and Rose Wilson for a cedar weaving and headband-making workshop at the hiłstiis hupii?uł Satellite Office in Port Alberni.

This event is free of charge to Yuułu?ił?ath citizens. All materials and supplies will be provided. Lunch will be provided.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15.
Call (778) 942-0655 or email yanny.poilievre@ufn.ca

Clayoquot Biosphere Trust

Neighbourhood Small Grants – Apply Now!



🎨 ✨ **Applications are now open!** This fall, the Neighbourhood Small Grant cycle is culture-themed, supporting strong, vibrant, and united cultures, celebrating diversity, and building inclusion.

🕒 Applications close: October 30th at 11:59 p.m.

For more information and to apply, check out the link below. If you have any questions, feel free to call our office at 250-725-2219 or reach out to brooke@clayoquotbiosphere.org.

💡 We can't wait to hear your ideas!

Learn more and apply: <https://clayoquotbiosphere.org/grants/current-grants/neighbourhood-small-grants>





🔔🎓 CBT's Lifelong Learner Award is **OPEN** for applications until November 12th! If you're a resident of the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Region (CSBR) looking to **continue your learning journey**, this award could be perfect for you!

Lifelong Learning Award:

- ➡ **Open** to students who have lived in the CSBR for no less than 3 years before attending post-secondary and graduated more than 3 years before applying.
- ➡ **Applicants must** be currently enrolled in a full-time education or trades program.
- ➡ **A one-time** award of \$5,500.
- ➡ **Not open** to students who have received a CBT Education Award in the past.

Apply today! Don't hesitate to reach out to colin@clayoquotbiosphere.org with any questions.

Learn more and apply: <https://clayoquotbiosphere.org/grants/education-awards>



NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE



See you on the west coast

We're heading to Tofino, Ucluelet
and a community near you.

Connect with an NIC Indigenous
or access navigator at one of our
upcoming drop-in sessions.



wc.navigators@nic.bc.ca
Call or text our west coast
team at **250-266-2073**

View these and
other events



   @NorthIslandCollege

nic.bc.ca

hiłstiis hupii?ut YG Services



October 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday Sunday
		1	2 Language Classes with maḥima 6:30pm to 8:30pm	3	4 5
6	7 Counselling with Amber Severinson 11:00am to 1:00pm	8	9	10 Michelle Touchie Citizenship & Enrolment Registrar	11 12
13 Statutory Holiday YG Offices Closed	14	15 Nicole Burtini Social Worker	16 Melissa Hall Human Resources Manager 1:00pm to 4:00pm Language Classes with maḥima 6:30pm to 8:30pm	17	18 Cedar Headband-making Workshop 11:00am to 3:00pm w/ Brian & Rose Wilson 19
20 Office Closed @ noon	21 Counselling with Amber Severinson 11:00am to 1:00pm	22	23 Kimberly Touchie Outreach Support Coordinator 10:00am to 2:30pm Jennifer Touchie Educations Services Manager 10:00am to 12:00pm	24	25 26
27	28	29	30 Halloween Party! @ the Italian Hall 5:00pm to 8:00pm Magic show @ 6:30	31	

*Services offered during regular operating hours of the Yuutu?it?at? 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?at? First Nation.