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Yuutu?it?ath

# Umacuk YG News

Volume 14, Issue 8 | September 2024

[www.ufn.ca](http://www.ufn.ca)

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## Events

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Yuutu?it?ath Day weekend

## In This Issue

In this issue, get updated on the Landing Craft recently acquired by the Lands and Resources Department, upcoming q<sup>w</sup>ayaçiiik?iis Headstart Childcare Centre events, exciting developments in hitaçu housing initiatives, Yuutu?it?ath Day weekend highlights, Highway 4 closures, and much more.

Yuutu?it?ath Day weekend is closer than ever! We are excited to welcome citizens home for the celebration. The Ucluelet Aquarium has donated free entry passes for Yuutu?it?ath citizens. Aquarium passes are available at the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre Reception desk, also available are parking passes for the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, valid until 2027.

Citizens are encouraged to pick up their passes to the PRNPR and Aquarium on **Friday, September 20** while the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre is open during regular operating hours of 8:00am to 4:30pm.

Read on for more events, services, and information.

Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre, huu?atu Centre & hiłstiis hupii?uł Satellite Office

# CLOSED

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**  
IN LIEU OF  
**YUUTU?IT?ATH DAY**  
Government Offices will reopen Tuesday, September 24.

*Join Night Sun Bear in hitacu for  
group healing work, focusing around teachings  
of the Sweatlodge.*



# **NIGHT SUN BEAR**

## **Cultural Counseling & Land Based Healing**

**All Gender Group - Tuesday, September 17 at 5:00pm**

For a more details and to sign up, contact:  
[Samantha.Touchie@ufn.ca](mailto:Samantha.Touchie@ufn.ca)



# Kennedy Hill Travel Advisory

Road work expected to cause minor delays on Highway 4.



Mainroad crews will be performing essential road repairs and resurfacing on Highway 4 approximately 2 kilometers east of Kennedy Hill.

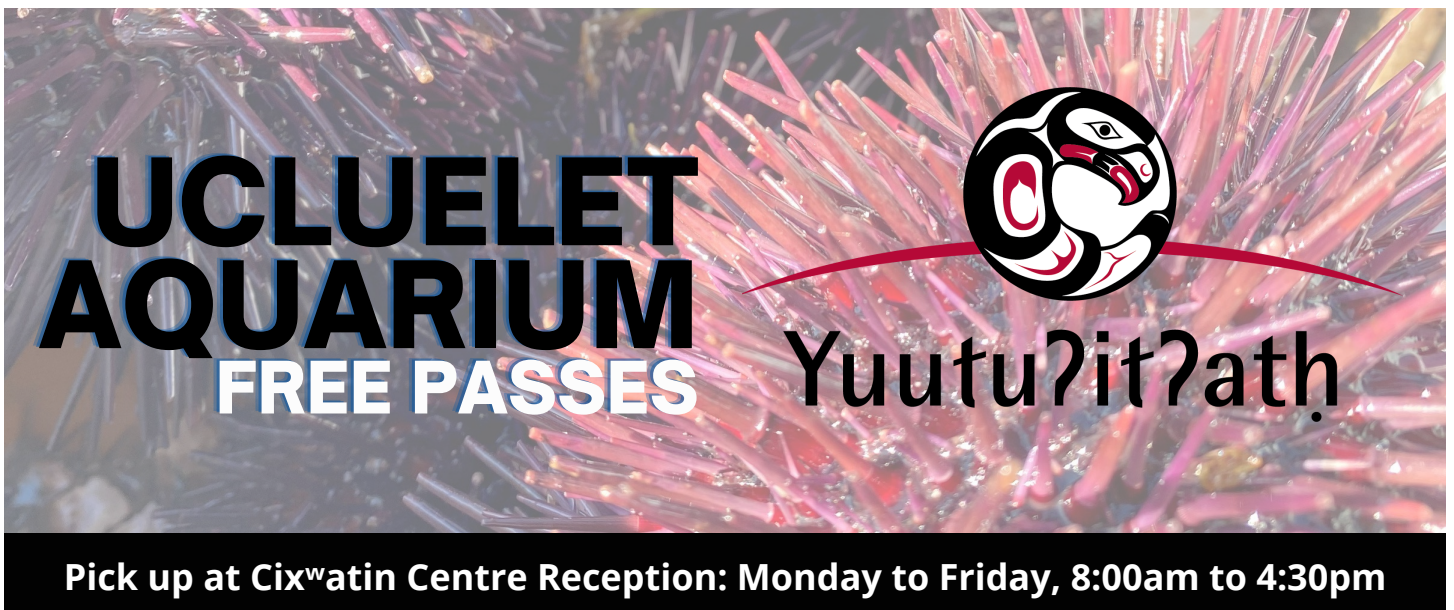
Single lane alternating traffic will be in effect **24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from Monday, September 9 to Friday, October 18, 2024**, or until completed.

Please be advised that the roadwork is expected to cause

minor delays. It is recommended to add extra time to travel plans in the area to compensate for the potential delays.

Check [www.drivebc.ca](http://www.drivebc.ca) for current driving conditions.

Drivers are reminded to slow down and obey all traffic laws, road signs and traffic control personnel. Please show respect for the roadside crews doing vital work to maintain our roads.





# Wild Stories

*A photography camp recap.*

*Written by: Marianne Paquette for West Coast Nest*



*Image by: Nicole Gerbrandt*



*Image by: Sam Rose Phillips*

**Over the course of two days**, participants explored the art and ethics of photography, learned new skills, and were able to practice capturing the beauty around them through their unique creative perspectives. The workshop, hosted by the West Coast NEST and led by Sam Rose Phillips, offered an inspiring blend of hands-on learning and thoughtful exploration.

## **Day 1 - Learning About Photography and Ethics**

The workshop began at the Ucluelet Community Center with a warm welcome and introductions, setting the tone for the days ahead. With her expertise and enthusiasm, Sam guided the youth through the essentials of creating a

compelling story through images. With a captivating slideshow, they explored examples of wildlife and environmental examples of photo stories, gaining insights into how diverse images can add depth and richness to a narrative.

Part of the discussion focused on composition, where the youth learned essential photography guidelines such as the rule of thirds, focus, and depth. Armed with this knowledge, they were then tasked with a creative assignment, sketching their dream photo on paper, and applying the composition techniques they had just learned. This exercise sparked creativity and set the stage for the hands-on exercise later in the day.

*Image by: Sam Rose Phillips*







Image by: Sam Rose Phillips

Ethics in photography was a topic at the center of each discussion. Sam emphasized the responsibility photographers hold anytime they capture a photo. Through discussion and a series of tangible examples, participants left with a clear understanding of how to approach this work with integrity.

The morning concluded with a visit to Big Beach, where attendees put their newfound knowledge into practice. The



Image by: Sam Rose Phillips

beach provided a stunning backdrop for capturing the essence of nature, allowing everyone to experiment with different techniques and perspectives.

After a lunch break, the group headed out on an adventure to meet with Barb Beasley of the Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sounds. The youth had the opportunity to learn about the SPLAT project, and the incredible work Barb does to help protect local amphibian



Image by: Sam Rose Phillips



Image by: Nicole Gerbrandt

populations. As they followed the trail to the calm lake, they encountered juvenile tree frogs and found inspiration in the beautiful scenery, capturing the sights along the way.

### Day 2 – Storytelling Through Art and Underwater Photography

The second day began outdoors at the Ucluelet Village Green, where participants were treated to a special presen-



Image by: Sam Rose Phillips

tation by Dennis Hetu, a nuučaañuł (Nuu-chah-nulth) artist and carver. Dennis spoke about his journey as an artist, the integration of traditional culture with modern technology, and how these elements inform his work. His insights enriched the participants' understanding and appreciation of storytelling.

Dane Stabel, the second guest speaker of the day, captivated the group with his knowledge as an underwater photog-



Image by: Sam Rose Phillips





Image by: Youth Camp Participant



Image by: Youth Camp Participant

rapher and diver. He spoke about photography’s potential as a powerful conservation tool and shared his experience documenting and removing ghost gear in Barkley Sound. His presentation emphasized the vital role photography can play in raising awareness and inspiring action for environmental causes.

stories that were told. Participants not only honed their technical skills but also deepened their appreciation for the ethical and cultural dimensions of photography. We can’t wait to see how these experiences will continue to inspire and shape the work of those who attended. Thank you to everyone who participated and we look forward to hosting our next Wild Stories Youth Photography Camp!

The group then explored the use of trail cameras and their role in storytelling. Sam explained how this non-invasive technology offers a way to document and learn from wild-life while minimizing disruption to the subjects captured. She also shared how she and her team are using them to film wolves in their upcoming documentary, Qwayaciik.

This camp is part of the West Coast NEST’s initiative to connect youth with hands-on coastal science and technology experiences, led by local experts, and made possible through a grant from NSERC PromoScience.

Participants then got to use their new understanding of photography and their skills to capture the underwater beauty found at the Ucluelet Aquarium. The group thoroughly enjoyed exploring the beautifully curated tanks of the local catch-and-release facility, finding inspiration in the diverse marine life on display. Each participant took creative photos of the stunning underwater creatures that inhabit west coast waters.



Image by: Sam Rose Phillips

After a lunch break, the workshop concluded with a reflective and celebratory session where participants shared their photos with the whole group. It brought everyone together

to appreciate the diverse stories captured over the two days. It was fascinating to see how, despite visiting the same locations, each participant produced unique photos that reflected their personal perspectives. No two images were alike, and each focused on different subjects, showcasing the individuality of their creative journeys.

### A Community of Storytellers

As we look back on this event, we celebrate the community of storytellers that was formed, the skills that were shared, and the



Image by: Nicole Gerbrandt



# New Signage

Welcoming you to the haḥuuli of the five central Nuučaanuḥ (Nuu-chah-nulth) nations.

Written by: Colin Robinson, Clayoquot Biosphere Trust



Image submitted by: Clayoquot Biosphere Trust

If you've driven from Port Alberni to the coast recently, you may have noticed a new sign 2km before you arrive at "the junction."

The sign welcomes you to the haḥuuli of the five central region nuučaanuḥ (Nuu-chah-nulth) Nations — hiḥkʷiiḥaḥ (Hesquiaht), ḥaahḥuusḥaḥ (Ahousaht), ḥaḥuukʷiiḥaḥ (Tla-o-qui-aht) Yuuḥuḥiḥaḥ (Ucluelet), and tukʷaaḥaḥ (Toquaht) — where the biosphere region is designated.

The nuučaanuḥ and English words on the sign aren't direct translations but rather have complementary meanings. An approximate direct translation of the nuučaanuḥ would be:

**ḥayaḥuḥaḥ - welcome**  
**haḥuuliḥakḥi - chiefly territories**  
**ḥapwinḥakḥi - central/middle**  
**nuučaanuḥaḥ - nuu-chah-nulth people**

haḥuuli is a way of understanding the territory of the nuučaanuḥ haw'iḥ (hereditary leaders). More than just lands and resources, haḥuuli involves a series of responsibilities and protocols for living together respectfully and abundantly. In many ways, the intentions (reconciliation, stewardship, cooperation) of the UNESCO Biosphere designation connect with the idea of haḥuuli.

We're grateful to Tla-o-qui-aht elder kamaathḥ Levi Martin for providing the thoughtful wording on the sign. Tla-o-qui-aht haw'iḥ Bruce Frank (mit)\*, and Yuuḥuḥiḥaḥ elders Larry Baird(mit) and Bob Mundy(mit), also provided language

guidance.

Placing the nuučaanuḥ text on the primary (left) side of the sign was a priority from the beginning of the design. This layout puts nuučaanuḥ sovereignty first and shows how the biosphere designation supports and uplifts community vitality. Having the nuučaanuḥ first was a "first" for the BC Ministry of Transport staff we worked with and we are grateful for their collaboration and support.

In July, we held a small ceremony to reflect on what the biosphere designation means within nuučaanuḥ haḥuuli. Yuuḥuḥiḥaḥ Government President Charles McCarthy shared how the late Larry Baird was a strong advocate for the biosphere designation and regional collaboration, and how Bob was such a dedicated teacher and proponent of culture within the Yuuḥuḥiḥaḥ community and the region.

On behalf of the late Bruce Frank, his partner Iris acknowledged his contributions and reflected on the positive impact of the biosphere designation, standing with Wesley Frank, who now sits as haw'iḥ since Bruce's passing. After the remarks, Iris and CBT co-chair Naomi Mack from Toquaht Nation spread eagle down around the sign, and kamaathḥ led a prayer to invite those passing by to listen, learn, and act with according respect for the communities and ecosystems in the region.

The sign project was made possible with funding from the BC CERIP fund.

\*The NCN suffix (mit) means the person has passed away.



# Indigenous Housing Fund

## Funding for 30 new rental homes in hitaču approved!

Written by: *hiira* [Rose Aday-McCarthy]

On Tuesday, September 10, BC Housing announced the recipients of the Indigenous Housing Fund to the public. Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government’s application for 30 new rental homes was one of 41 accepted projects.

The Indigenous Housing Fund is a provincial program founded in 2018 and administered through BC Housing totaling \$1.7 billion. The fund’s purpose is to aid the government’s target of providing 3,500 homes to Indigenous people on and off reserve.

Over 1,600 “culturally appropriate homes will soon become places of comfort and stability for many Indigenous people throughout B.C. who face a greater need for affordable housing,” said Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing in a BC Housing press release.

“These additional homes are part of our ongoing reconciliation work to ensure that Indigenous people are provided the resources and services to thrive in the communities they call home. With collective support from partners, we are better able to deliver housing that meets people’s needs.”

These 1,600 homes bring the provincial total of Indigenous Housing Fund homes ready for families to move in or are currently being constructed to 3,220.

Mid Island-Pacific Rim MLA, Josie Osborn (@josie.osborne.mpr) shared in a Facebook post her perspective on the importance of safe and affordable housing in building and maintaining healthy communities, and stated, “In BC, we are taking a unique approach and working in partnership with First Nations and housing providers to address this need, including funding housing on-reserve and on treaty lands, something no other province is doing.”

BC Housing will work closely with Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government and the other successful Indigenous Housing Fund applicants throughout construction of the housing projects. The proposed Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government project will result in 30 new houses being built in hitaču. The first houses will be five three-bedroom, single family detached homes followed by a series of six-plexes designed like two triplexes joined in the middle.

Spencer Touchie, Director of Capital Infrastructure and Assets Management is excited for the difference the additional housing will make for hitaču and its residents. “This is going to mean some really great changes to the community. We’re going to be we’re doubling the size of our non-market housing portfolio for the nation”

Non-market housing is rental housing owned by a government or organization that won’t be sold for a certain amount of time and is rented for below market rates. This is what keeps rent low in hitaču as opposed to in Ucluelet or Tofino.

Before new construction can begin there is still work to be done on the site intended for the Indigenous Housing Fund

Image submitted by: Spencer Touchie



CONCEPT: 6-unit ground-oriented (one-storey) housing cluster. Each cluster contains two adaptable 1-bedroom units, two 2-bedroom units, and two 3-bedroom units. Between the clusters is a shared covered outdoor space for weather-protected gathering. This shared area could also be used for outdoor food preparation.



houses. Fire hydrants, wastewater, sewer systems, and sidewalks need to be installed as well as landscaping and trees.

To complete the site preparation for the Indigenous Housing Fund application, all the existing trees had to be removed. For future site developments Spencer would like to keep as much of the natural vegetation and trees as possible. "If we can maintain a bit more of the natural vegetative state it's healthier for the environment. Nature does an awesome job at taking care of rainwater and runoff. So, if nature can help us along the way, let's let it help us."

A significant amount of work has gone into the project, years in the making. Citizens participating in housing surveys created important data that informed the direction of the Indigenous Housing Fund application and the future developments for hitaču to be enjoyed for generations to come.

Spencer stressed the importance of anyone and everyone who would like to access housing to apply, regardless of if there is currently housing available. "We really need to make sure that we're getting as many people as possible to put their applications into the system, because that creates a signal for us in the government. That's the clearest signal we can bring forward and say, 'here's a defined need in our community'."

YG housing progress has been successful due to cross departmental collaboration between Administration, Assets, Lands and Resources; supported through Executive leadership and in alignment with the Strategic Plan.

To access the Housing Application, visit the Yuułu?it?ath Government website at [ufn.ca](http://ufn.ca). From the main page select 'Forms', scroll down and click on 'Assets and Housing Forms', then select the required form.

# Submit Your Housing Application!



**Are you in need of housing in hitaču?**  
Submit or request a Housing Application to  
[housing@ufn.ca](mailto:housing@ufn.ca)

*A fillable and printable Housing Application can be found online:*

**[ufn.ca](http://ufn.ca) > Forms > Assets and Housing Forms**

# q<sup>w</sup>ayačiiik?iis: A Year in Review

*Look back on all the fun we had and forward to what is yet to come!*

Written by: hiiña [Rose Aday-McCarthy]

Images submitted by: Skylene Patrick



## hitaču Sports Day

Inspired by the Tlu-piich Games, q<sup>w</sup>ayačiiik?iis Childcare Centre brought the fun and games back home with hitaču Sports Day.

Hosted in the centre of the community at the basketball court, multicoloured lines marked the running track for foot races, balloon and spoon race, three-legged race, potato sack race, three-point contest, and later in the day it became a battlefield for a fun and friendly water fight. Every child got a water squirt gun to keep as well as other fun prizes and ribbons. A lot of the children got their first ever ribbon awarded on Sports Day!

The day opened with cultural song and drumming, followed by a silly “aunties and uncles” obstacle course race. “The vision there was to show the kids what [the Sports Day] was about. It’s about being competitive and having fun.” q<sup>w</sup>ayačiiik?iis Childcare Centre Manager, Skylene Patrick said.

Notable attendees included Constable Yannick Harry who was around to lend a helping hand where needed and build relationships with the community, and Jaden Touchie who recently graduated from the University of Victoria where he was “an elite collegiate athlete playing for the UVic Vikes for his entire university career”. Jaden is a role model to the children, showing the sports and education goals that they can achieve too with hard work and dedication.

Tyson Touchie and Wilson Jack volunteered to barbecue fish and hot dogs for lunch and helped serve as well. “They were just purely volunteers,

just supporting the kids. I really appreciated that, because, we wouldn’t have been able to pull it off without them.”

Mike Watts also went above and beyond providing the sound system and great tunes to help make the event special.

Activities for the day went beyond sports. Occupational therapist, Cynthia Lau had a booth to share information about what she can offer as support and what she does for children at q<sup>w</sup>ayačiiik?iis Childcare Centre. It was a terrific opportunity for her to get to know the community better.

The whole Wilson family, including expert weaver Rose, Brian, Brian Jr, Llyod and Bev Wilson, came to support the event and impart knowledge on the next generation of cedar weavers. All ages enjoyed learning from Yuułu?iif?ath? ce-





dar weavers and elders at the cedar weaving booth.

A highlight of the day for Skylene was, “Our neighbor, Joe Thompson, was there, and he recorded our four-year-old race. Little four-year-olds sprinting. They’re all smiling, and you could hear people of all ages, all around them, cheering them on.”

### Summer Program

q<sup>w</sup>ayaçiiik?iis Childcare Centre’s school aged summer program was organized and run by Jada Touchie this year to great success.

The program for children ages 5 to 12 had twelve children enrolled who spent the second part of the summer going on regular field trips to the aquarium, parks and on August 27 they joined their Tla-o-qui-aht neighbours for the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation’s Fun Day. “They had like eight different bouncy castles, face painting, balloon animals, snow cones, cotton candy. It was crazy and super fun.”

The summer also saw the reopening of a third childcare program due in part to recent additions to the q<sup>w</sup>ayaçiiik?iis Childcare Centre staff.

Having three full childcare programs running means that more children can be enrolled, and more families are supported. “With our new hires we’re still able to carry forward with [all three programs] ... we’re able to support kids through their gradual entry to kindergarten.”

### q<sup>w</sup>ayaçiiik?iis Childcare Centre Staff Highlight

- **Sandra Louie** is an early childhood educator assistant (ECEA) and has been working in childcare for years. She has gone above and beyond providing one-on-one support work.
- **Evelyn Charlie** is a responsible adult (RA), a person who can provide care and mature guidance to children. She has done a great job helping with administration, working with children or wherever else she is needed.
- **Madeline George**, an RA, is doing a great job helping



with the children, sharing cultural knowledge, language, drumming and singing.

- **Doreen Touchie**, an RA, focuses on one-on-one support and supporting all the kids in the programs. She has been a very gentle caretaker.
- **Bernice Touchie** is the Elder in residence. She shares her immense cultural knowledge with the children.
- **Analeigh Bruin** is an Early Childhood Educator (ECE) from Australia. She is very friendly, kind and has been working in childcare for years.
- And a special thank you to assistant manager, **Marrisa Mack** and ECEA, **Kayla Black**, who were integral in helping recruit the new hires.

### Potlatches

If there is one truly stand out event from the last twelve months, it’s the q<sup>w</sup>ayaçiiik?iis Childcare Centre potlatch. Care was taken to ensure proper protocol was followed inviting Ha’wiih [hereditary chiefs] in person with a gift and a handshake before the invitation was extended to everyone.

The potlatch took place on December 7, 2023, and attendees witnessed the unveiling of two NCN [potlatch curtains]. “It was really big deal for us. It was really meaningful. We started dance practice in October 2023 and that was most of our children’s first-time hearing or seeing a lot of those songs. Now we’ve got little three and four-year-olds singing



Images left and right by: Nicolas Meunier



on their own, dancing on their own.”

Skylene is hoping they will be able to host another potlatch during the upcoming winter. This time the potlatch will be centered around giving traditional quuʔas [another word to describe Nuu-chah-nulth people] names to the children.

“A lot of our children don’t have quuʔas names, so we’re hoping to put it out to families, if they have family names they would like to gift to their children, that we can work together and offer the time and space for them to handle that business. And if families don’t have a name, we can work with our elders and find names for all our kids who whose families would like to gift them a name.”

It is common for quuʔas people to reach adulthood without receiving a traditional name. A once normal part of life for Nuu-chah-nulth ancestors has become a rarity for most people for a variety of reasons. Names are scarce in some families, the teachings around names have been lost, or simply lack of resources to host a potlatch.

Potlatches are expensive affairs, often costing upwards of

\$30,000 which isn’t attainable for most individuals to hold a naming ceremony. For masčim [common people] it is acceptable for names to be gifted at smaller family ceremonies instead of large potlatches, but it is an uncommon practice in modern times.

The decision to move forward with gifting names was not made lightly. Plenty of consultation was sought out beforehand from elders, knowledge keeps and other Headstart childcare centres. “We’ve had discussions with people at culture practice, we’ve had discussions with other Aboriginal Headstart facilities. There are some other Aboriginal Headstart facilities that give their children nicknames.”

These “nicknames” are names in language that are used informally and have not been officially gifted or witnessed in a ceremony. It is sometimes practiced in language classes to encourage and include learners who do not have a quuʔas name and might not have the means to be gifted a true name officially.

A name isn’t just a word to attract a person’s attention. It’s a signifier of a person’s heritage, their family, a string tying them to all those who bore the name before them and share it today. It’s a vital connection to language and culture.

Giving children quuʔas names as early as possible is a way to make sure they know they belong. It is another way Yuuʔuʔiʔatʔ can encourage raising the next generation to be stronger, culturally knowledgeable, healthier, happier, and prepared to participate in culture practices with ease.

The qʷayačiiikʔiis Childcare Centre is working hard building a community of caring adults, aunts and uncles and elders, around Yuuʔuʔiʔatʔ youth to ʔaaqsčiiikukʷaʔmaʔat ʔašii [show them the right path].



Images by: Nicolas Meunier





# Meet the Kitchen Team

*Āeekoo waamaah yaqitii?at siqiiĭ [I thank those who cooked.]*

*Written by: ĥiirĥa [Rose Aday-McCarthy]*

**There's a skilled team** in the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre kitchen, hard at work making delicious food for Yuuĥu?iĥ?atĥ citizens and guests.

Mary-Lou DeRuiter is the Head Cook. After moving back to hitaĥu in December 2023 she started out as the Assistant Cook, offering support for Culture Night dinners before eventually taking the helm as Head Cook.

Mary-Lou got her culinary education by cooking from her grandmas and aunties, leading to some unexpected career opportunities, "I just kind of fell into all these cooking positions, and here, I was just helping out. I was in Dyllon's position before and went from there."

Dyllon Suprenant, the Assistant Cook, has been an integral addition in the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre kitchen since May 2024, as he said, "I just help with everything pretty much".

After going to Vancouver Island University's culinary school and spending eight years in the food industry Dyllon is happy to be home. Enjoying having more freedom in the kitchen than before, he has been experimenting with adding more adventurous food options to the menu, like butter chicken, which was reportedly well received for a Culture Night dinner.

Also helping in the kitchen is Katherine Williams, a summer student going into grade 11. Katherine hadn't expected to work in the kitchen but is liking it "pretty well" so far. Mary-Lou chimed in, "She's got really good work ethic."

Both Mary-Lou and Dyllon expressed their happiness working for Yuuĥu?iĥ?atĥ Government. "I'm just happy to be here helping, working, getting to know the community again. It's really good for me to move back home and feel connected. To be able to provide that for the community like these events and culture night and just get everyone together. It's a really happy position here." Mary-Lou said.

Working in the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre kitchen has other benefits, including opportunities to make traditional foods with seafoods often supplied by the Lands and Resources Department.

Mary-Lou added, "It's nice to get fish and stuff provided. We've got fish heads, we've got salmon roe, we've had herring eggs, we have prawns. It's really good for the community to have traditional foods. As well as 'Mr. BBQ'. We're slowly easing them into more and more outside stuff, but



*Image submitted by: Mary-Lou DeRuiter*

still keeping traditional foods."

Though more relaxed than a restaurant kitchen, the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre kitchen staff are still on a busy schedule. Daily the kitchen supplies food for the Healthy Meals Program. The program provides elders and people with health difficulties access to healthy meals twice a day with fish and traditional foods included as often as possible.

In addition to the Healthy Meals Program and dinner for up to 50 people on Culture Night the kitchen also supplies lunches and dinners for a variety of special events, workshops, and programs as needed.

Next time you're enjoying a meal at the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre be sure to say ?uuŝyakŝiĥe?ic ha?uk<sup>w</sup>ap siĥa [Thank you for feeding me] to Mary-Lou, Dyllon and Katherine!





# Committee Vacancy

Interested to get involved?  
Join a Committee for the Yuułu?i?ath Government!  
*We encourage all interested to apply or submit a letter of interest.*

**NEW OPENING!**

## We are looking for:

### Citizenship & Enrolment

**1 Vacancy**

- Individual must be an Elder and a Yuułu?i?ath Citizen.
- The Citizenship and Enrolment Committee makes decisions regarding the granting and revocation of Yuułu?i?ath citizenship and the granting and revocation of enrollment under the Maa-nulth Treaty.
- The Committee must meet at least four times each year.

Send your application or interest to:

**[Jill.Hamilton@ufn.ca](mailto:Jill.Hamilton@ufn.ca)**

**[ufn.ca](http://ufn.ca) > [government](#) > [committees](#)**



# Landing Craft Arrives

*A new addition to the YG fleet brings new opportunities.*

*Written by: Mark MacDonald*



*Images submitted by: Catie Bateman*

## There's a new 'Queen' for the Yuuṭuʔiṭ?ath.

It's not a person, it's a vessel, the 36-foot long Yuuṭuʔiṭ ḥakum, which means Queen in the Yuuṭuʔiṭ?ath language, and it's a new landing craft for the YG Lands and Resources Department.

The vessel arrived in May after being constructed by Campbell River-based Eaglecraft Custom Boats, which builds custom, dependable, commercial-grade vessels designed to operate in the most unforgiving of environments, which includes the rugged waters of Vancouver Island's West Coast.

Funding was received from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for the Salish Sea Initiative over the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 fiscal years, which includes funds to purchase the 36' Landing Craft.

Catie Bateman, Administrative Coordinator for the Lands and Resources Department, says "We can transport people, equipment and supplies on it for near-shore operations. It is capable of moving people, equipment and supplies from ship to shore, and increases our access to remote areas within our territory."

Besides being utilized for territo-

ry patrols, the vessel is also being used for research, as staff can conduct micro-trolling and monitor shellfish, prawn, and crab populations, and water quality while aboard. It features twin Yamaha 300 horsepower outboard engines.

The Yuuṭuʔiṭ ḥakum is being piloted by marine stewardship technicians Ron George and Lindsay McCarthy Sr. Its predecessor for this type of work was conducted from the Nahmint V, which remains as part of the YG fleet.

The naming of the new vessel was significant.

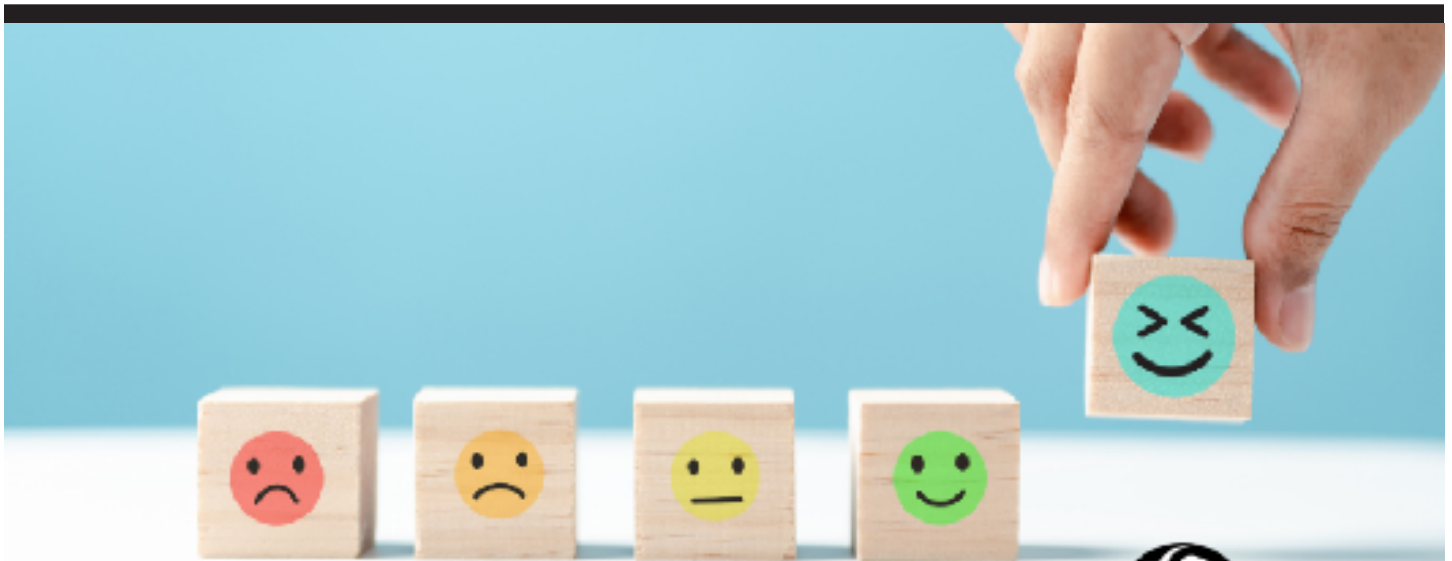
"Within the department we went back and forth for a while, and we all decided that having the community vote on the name was the best route to take," Catie recalls. "The community put in vessel name submissions and then voted on the top three. Yuuṭuʔiṭ ḥakum is the one that came out on top, and the name was submitted by Larry Baird (son of recently-passed former councilor Larry Baird)."

Catie says the boat has been well used and well received.

"We have done some elder tours where we've taken the elders out into the territory, and also other people within the Lands and Resources Department," she notes. "It was nice for the elders to visit the territory, especially in the remote locations, and they were able to talk about ecologically significant areas, and areas of past harvesting, which was great."







## CHILD & YOUTH COUNSELLING

Clinical Counsellor, Amber Severinson, is offering counselling for children and youth at Ucluelet Elementary School and Ucluelet Secondary School once a week.

*Interested parents and caregivers can contact Amber Severinson to arrange appointments for their children.*

Call (236) 544-0464 or go to the huuʔatu Centre on **Tuesday, September 17.**



## DENTAL THERAPIST CLINIC

**WITH FNHA DENTAL THERAPIST  
MELANIE BRAKER**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

**10:30AM - 3:30PM**

**ASSETS BUILDING** *Down by the Totem*

**FOR ALL AGES!**



*To book an appointment call huuʔatu reception: (250) 726-7343*



# New Clinical Counsellor

*New Nuu-chah-nulth clinical counsellor specializes in healing trauma.*

*Written by: Mark MacDonald*

Seeing people move on from merely surviving to enjoying living is what fuels Amber Severinson, the newest contract Clinical Counsellor at Yuułuṭiṭṭḁ Government.

Amber started in June, and meets with citizens once a week in hitaṭu at the huuṭatu Centre, usually on Wednesdays.

"I love this work," she says. "It is really amazing seeing people that were merely shells of themselves to where they are now able to feel their feelings to be the people they want to be. And enjoy their lives and be the moms and grandparents they want to be."

Amber was born and raised in hitaṭu, and has received extensive training in child and youth care social work. She graduated with a degree in social work specializing in Indigenous Trauma and Resiliency from the University of Toronto in 2018, and for the past three years, has been in private practice doing mostly trauma counselling, from her home in Port Alberni. She also does work virtually throughout B.C.

"I haven't lived in hitaṭu since the 1990's, but my children stay here in the summer because my Mom still lives here," she states, adding she is from the McCarthy and Mundy families.

Before she started this contract Amber was already going to elementary schools to see Yuułuṭiṭṭḁ children, and she is continuing to do that.

"I am currently here one day a week for seven hours, so people can make appointments to see me, or just drop in," she notes. "Going forward, I'm going to be available for Yuułuṭiṭṭḁ children at elementary school, and if parents or grandparents want me to see their kids at school I can. They will just need to sign the necessary paperwork and tell me why they want me or see the kids and I can go over to the school."

Amber utilizes several methods to engage people in discussions.

"I enjoy ladies crafting circles, where people can be casual and while they're working on their crafts, if they want to talk, they can," she explains. "Cole and I are open to any of their ideas, about what they would like us to offer, and offer things in different ways. We also like walking and talking, That's probably a good place to start if someone is not sure if they want to go to counselling."

Amber specializes in trauma counselling, and works with people suffering from developmental trauma, detachment trauma, C-PTSD (Complex Post Traumatic

Stress Disorder) and other symptoms can be loneliness, addictions, isolation, feeling stuck, hopeless, empty or numb, to name a few.

Some of her favorite apps she often recommends are "How We Feel", "Moovd", "AANA" and websites like Gottman Institute, Circle of Security, and Did the dog die, and books by authors Peter Levine, Dan Siegal and Lindsay C. Gibson.

Amber posts on Facebook @IndigenousRSW and Instagram stories @Huumiistihmpt for availability on the day of, in Ucluelet. Amber's contact is [HTCounsellingServices@pm.me](mailto:HTCounsellingServices@pm.me).

"Even if people are not sure of where to start, that's not a problem," she says. "I do get people who are either in crisis or know that they want to feel better, but they don't know where to begin. They want to feel better than they do now, but they don't have to come in with a laundry list of things to talk about. Just knowing where they want to be is good enough."

Amber also is aware of the physical byproducts of dealing with trauma, and shares that information with people if they're interested.

"When we go through a lot of hard things in our life and we don't have support, we have to survive all those traumatic experiences and they get stored in our body. Even learning about emotions and sensations and how to feel feelings can go a long way. If people just want to come and learn about things like the nervous system, or anything about mental health or putting together a wellness plan for themselves, they're welcome to come."



## WOMEN'S CRAFTING CIRCLE

*Bring beadwork, knitting, crochet, weaving or any other craft to work on while enjoying snacks, coffee and mindful conversations.*

**Tuesday, September 17 . 4:30pm to 6:30pm**

**Six-Plex Common Area**

*Some beading supplies provided.*

For more information contact: Kimberly Touchie, call (250) 266-4695, or Amber Severinson, email [htcounsellingervices@pm.me](mailto:htcounsellingervices@pm.me).



Clinical counsellor, Cole Schafer and Chef Jordan Benson are hosting a Wellness Lunch to talk about wellness for ourselves and the community. Be nourished by good food and good company!

# COMMUNITY WELLNESS LUNCH

*All community members and Yuulu?il?ath Government staff are welcome to attend.*

**MONDAY  
OCTOBER  
7**

**SIX PLEX  
COMMON AREA  
11:45AM - 1:15PM**



Questions? Contact Cole Schafer, call (250) 616-2254



# Jam and Salmon Canning

*FREE homemade jam and salmon for everyone at Yuuṭuʔiʔaṭṭ Day!*



Images by: Rose Aday-McCarthy



Image below by: Melissa Boucha

In preparation for Yuuṭuʔiʔaṭṭ Day weekend, the Yuuṭuʔiʔaṭṭ Day activities group was hard at work for two days in August making jam and canned salmon to give as gifts to citizens.

Day one was dedicated to making plum, blackberry, blueberry and strawberry jams. Cole Schafer was helping make the jam and recalls his highlight of the day was “being scolded when I asked to throw out the jam froth. ‘That’s the best part! We’re making fresh bread to dip that in!’”

On Day two there were three pressure canners running all day to can dozens of pint-sized jars of fish. By the end of the day there was jarred fish covering an entire commercial kitchen counter. There will be plenty for everyone on YG Day!

Ḳeekoo Ḳeekoo [thank you] to the Cixʷatin Centre kitchen staff for allowing the activities group to use the kitchen. And ḲuušʷakšičeḲic [thank you for helping] to everyone who volunteered their time and energy to help with the canning.



# Drop-in Clinic with Canada Revenue Agency & Service Canada

Join us to find out more about the benefits, credits, pensions,  
programs, and services you may be entitled to!

**Date:** September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Location:** 700 Wya Rd, Ucluelet

## Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)

- Tax Slip information (T4, T5007, T4A -Pension, T4A- OAS and more)
- Notice of Assessments (NOAs) and Assistance with CRA correspondence
- Benefits and Credits information: Disability Tax Credit (DTC), Canada Child Benefit (CCB), GST/HST credit, Canada Worker's Benefit (CWB)
- Account updates (address, contact number, etc.)

## Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

- Eligible individuals can get their taxes done for free

## Service Canada

- NEW Canadian Dental Care Plan - Information and Application/Attestation
- Pension information on Old Age Security and Canada Pension Plan
- Get a Social Insurance Number (birth certificate in most cases will be required)
- Receive an access code to sign up for online My Service Canada
- General Government of Canada information

\* Please bring any ID you have as what is required will depend on the services accessed



# Mobile Outreach

September 17, 2024 10:00am- 3:00 p.m.

Location: Ucluelet First Nation-  
700 Way Rd

Payment Methods: Cash (exact change appreciated), Debit or Credit Card, Cheque, Money Order

Identity Services, Vital Statistics or Income and Disability Assistance:

Bring 2 pieces of valid unexpired identification:

- B.C. Government issued photo I.D. (BCDL, BCSC, BCID), Canadian Birth Certificate, Canadian Passport, SCIS Card, Canadian Citizenship, Permanent Resident Card or IMM Permit (Work or Study)



Scan the QR Code for a complete list of services.

 Driver Licensing and Renewals	 BC Services Card and Medical Services Plan (MSP)
 Vital Statistics Birth, Death and Marriage Documents	 Income and Disability Assistance Information and Pathfinding
 BC Services Card App ID Verification	 Billing and Payment Services PST, Ambulance, MSP
 Pathfinding Government Forms and Benefits Finder	 Rural Property Tax Payment and Information Services



THE UCLUELET AQUARIUM PRESENTS...

**JOIN US FOR A CONVERSATION ABOUT KEEPING OUR HARBOUR HEALTHY**

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2024  
6-8PM  
@ THE UCLUELET AQUARIUM  
180 MAIN STREET

FREE ENTRY  
SNACKS  
DOOR PRIZE



Ucluelet  
AQUARIUM



# FREE MOUNTAIN BIKE RAFFLE!



**Rocky Mountain Slayer 70**



**Devinci Frantik**



**Norco Shore**



Would you like a mountain bike to ride around town and the trails on čumaata?

Yuuku?i?ath citizens can enter to win one of three mountain bikes. Three winners will be drawn on **Saturday, September 21**

łeekoo to the Indigenous Youth Mountain Bike Program for donating the bicycles!

## ENTER TO WIN!

- At the Cixwatin Centre or hiłstiis hupii?uł Satellite Office reception.
- By email to [Samantha.Touchie@ufn.ca](mailto:Samantha.Touchie@ufn.ca)
- Or leave a comment on the [@UclueletFirstNation](https://www.facebook.com/UclueletFirstNation) Facebook page.

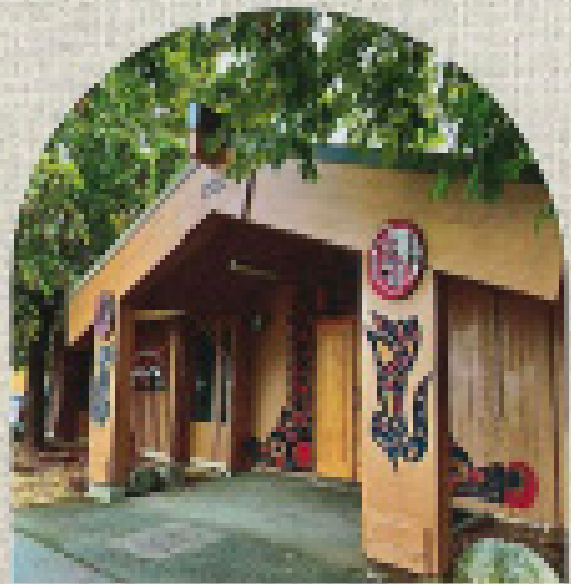
One entry per person. Deadline to enter the raffle:  
**Friday, September 20 at Noon**



*Port Alberni Friendship Center*

**AGM**

*Annual General Meeting*



- **Tuesday**  
**September**  
**24, 2024 @5pm**

- **Port Alberni**  
**Friendship**  
**Center Gym**

- **Dinner**  
**Provided**

**Join Us!**

The Port Alberni Friendship Center invites all community members to attend our Annual General Meeting. This important event provides an opportunity for members and the public to learn about the work we've accomplished over the past year and participate in discussions that help shape the future of our organization.



**Membership Fee: \$2.00**

Everyone is welcome whether you're a long-time supporter or new to the center, we value your input.

Please contact PAFCC if you have any questions. 250-713-8281

3555 4<sup>th</sup> Ave Port Alberni, BC V9Y 4H3



## **CALL FOR NUU CHAH NULTH SINGERS & COMPOSERS**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: [January 10, 2025](#)**

### **Overview**

KCFN Health and the Nuukwahuuk Working Group are excited to put out this call to Nuu Chah Nulth singers and composers for the creation and showcasing of their traditional music. The music compiled as part of this call will be available for future wellness and healing related projects led by Nuu Chah Nulth communities.

### **Song Criteria**

In honour of traditional protocols regarding sacred or ceremonial use of traditional songs, the following criteria are set for any submissions:

- Traditional songs "from the house" should not be submitted through this call;
- Song should be a new composition;
- Song should be available for open use;
- Song should include a short introduction that includes the following
  - Introduction of the artist/composer
  - Explanation of the song including any permissions or acknowledgements
  - Descriptions of "how and when" the song is to be used

### **Song Rights & Use**

- Songs to be compiled and held by Nuukwahuuk (Taking Care of songs) Working Group for archival purposes;
- Rights to songs remain with the singer/composer and those they choose to share it with;
- Nuu Chah Nulth Nations community-based programs and departments may access and have open use of the songs for the purposes of healing and wellness;





K A : ' Y U : ' K ' T ' H '  
C H E : K ' T L E S 7 E T ' H '  
KYUQUOT / CHEGLESEHT  
FIRST NATIONS

- Songs may be used for other initiatives as determined by the Nuukwahuk Working Group (ie: providing access to culture for those who have barriers to access);
- No profit from the sale or reproduction of these songs will be permitted unless by the original artists.

#### **Submission Format & Process**

- Recording should include: brief introduction of artist, brief explanation of song, any permissions or acknowledgements, a brief statement of the meaning or purpose of use for the song, and the song;
- Songs may be submitted via any available means of sharing (email, clouds or shared drives etc.);
- Submissions are to be audio only (no video);
- Submissions should be sent to [nuukwahuk2024@gmail.com](mailto:nuukwahuk2024@gmail.com)

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: January 10, 2025**

Questions about this call? Contact Allan Campbell: [allanc@kcfirstnations.com](mailto:allanc@kcfirstnations.com) or 250-202-7066

**Chuu,**

**Nuukwahuk Working Group**

**Special Note:** Nuukwahuk translates to "taking care of songs" in the Ahousaht dialect. In the spirit of this territory wide call, the working group wishes to respectfully acknowledge that there are varying dialects across the family group as a means to honour all Nuu Chah Nulth Nations who will receive this call.



## Nuu-chah-nulth Employment & Training Program

**FOOD SAFE  
UCLUELET, BC**



### Course Content

A food handling, sanitation and work safety course designed for food service establishment operators and front line food service workers such as cooks, servers, bussers, dishwashers, and deli workers.

The course covers important food safety and worker safety information including food-borne illness, receiving and storing food, preparing food, serving food, cleaning and sanitizing.

*Facilitated by First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)*

### How to Register

Connect with your Case Manager at [Tyson.Touchie@nuuchahnulth.org](mailto:Tyson.Touchie@nuuchahnulth.org) 250-726-7347  
To register for NETP services connect with our Intake Coordinator  
[Gregory.Thomas@nuuchahnulth.org](mailto:Gregory.Thomas@nuuchahnulth.org) or call 250-723-1331

### Training Will Be Held On:



October 2, 2024



9:00 AM- 4:00 PM



#4 1636 Peninsula Rd  
Ucluelet, BC

Funding provided in part by the  
Government of Canada

**Canada**

250-726-7347

#4 1636 Peninsula Rd  
Ucluelet, BC





# Nuu-chah-nulth Employment & Training Program

Drivers L Training  
October 25, 2024  
Port Alberni, BC



## COURSE CONTENT

NETP—Driver's L Workshop will prepare you to take your Class 7 L Written Knowledge Test. Gain insights into taking the test from expert driving instructor. Limited space in person. Participants are required to pre-register. Clean Drivers Abstract Required


## TO REGISTER

To register for NETP services contact  
Gregory.Thomas@nuuchahnulth.org or  
250-723-1331 or connect with your case  
manager:  
Jamie.Vissia@nuuchahnulth.org  
Tammy.Lucas@nuuchahnulth.org  
NETPBladerunners@nuuchahnulth.org

## DETAILS

October 25, 2024 9:00 am-3:30 pm  
NETP OFFICE 4090 8th Avenue  
Lunch Provided  
Support for test fees may be available

Funding provided in part by Government of Canada

Canada 

250-723-1331





**Thornton Creek Enhancement Society**  
**Hatchery Technician Seasonal Position**

Thornton Creek Enhancement Society is looking for keen people to work towards rebuilding salmon runs in Barkley Sound. The Hatchery Technician Position is a diverse, fast-paced role that changes daily. The successful applicant must have a strong work ethic and be passionate about fish and rivers. You should work well on a team and be attentive to detail, biosecurity, and safety. The right candidate must be willing to work if required on weekends and holidays. Work commences September 23 through to early November.

These positions are based out of the Thornton Creek Hatchery. The chosen candidates will be reliable and interact well with the public. If you are physically fit, enjoy working outside in all weather conditions, and are capable around water, this position could be for you!

**Duties include:**

- Collecting brood stock, egg takes, incubation
- Undertaking biosampling (e.g., otoliths, scales, DNA samples) and associated record keeping
- Performing stream walk salmon enumeration surveys
- Clearing trails
- Preparing, cleaning, and maintaining hatchery infrastructure and gear
- Assisting with educational programming for school groups and visitors

**Preferred skills and qualifications:**

- Reliable and team player with an attention to detail and safety
- A background or interest in fish husbandry or biology
- Salmonid species and sex identification
- Comfortable working in and around water
- Enjoys engaging with the public
- Swift Water Rescue Training
- Level 1 First Aid/CPR-C
- Valid BC Driver's License

These positions remain open until filled. Please send your resume and a cover letter to [thornton.creek.hatchery@gmail.com](mailto:thornton.creek.hatchery@gmail.com). Only successful candidates will be contacted for an interview.

This work is in collaboration with the Yuułuᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐᕐ Government – Uduelet First Nation and available with support from Clayoquot Biosphere Trust. Indigenous Peoples are encouraged to apply.





# hitstis hupii?ut YG Services

## September 2024



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Sunday
1 <b>Stat Holiday</b> YG Offices Closed	2	3 Corey Rich Economic Development Officer 10:00am to 4:30pm	4 Michelle Touchie Social Development Coordinator, Citizenship & Enrolment Registrar	5	6
7	8	9 Amber Severinson Clinical Counsellor 10:00am to 1:00pm	10 Kimberly Touchie Outreach Support Worker	11	12
13	14	15	16 Melissa Hall Human Resources Manager 1:00pm to 4:00pm	17 <b>Yuutu?it?ath Day Weekend</b> hitstis hupii?ut Closed	18
19	20	21	22 Jennifer Touchie Education Services Manager 10:00am to 12:00pm Kimberly Touchie Outreach Support Worker	23	24
25 YG Offices Closed	26	27	28	29	30
31 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation YG Offices Closed					

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



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# HOMework HALLS



## UES LEARNING SUPPORT TEACHER

*Kira DeLeeuw*

**MONDAY TO THURSDAY, 3:00PM-4:30PM**  
**SIX-PLEX**

There will be support for students to work on learning goals and assignment completion.

The school bus can drop students off close to the Six-Plex Monday through Thursday after school.

Please arrange to pick-up your child at/or before 4:45pm.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Kira at [kira.deleeuw@ufn.ca](mailto:kira.deleeuw@ufn.ca)  
or Jennifer at [jennifer.touchie@ufn.ca](mailto:jennifer.touchie@ufn.ca)

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## USS INDIGENOUS SUPPORT TEACHER

*Nancy Woods*

**TUESDAY AND THURSDAY, 3:30PM-5:00PM**  
**CIX<sup>w</sup>ATIN CENTRE**

Visit Nancy Woods, USS Indigenous Support Teacher, for homework support in the boardroom at the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin Centre.

If students are working on Choices they are more than welcome to come to the Cix<sup>w</sup>atin boardroom for help.

Snacks will be provided!

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Nancy at [nwoods@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:nwoods@sd70.bc.ca)  
or Jennifer at [jennifer.touchie@ufn.ca](mailto:jennifer.touchie@ufn.ca)