

HITAĆU ASSEMBLY

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024

**6:00pm Assembly
ZOOM & LIVESTREAM**

Zoom

- **6:00pm Assembly starts**
 - www.zoom.us
 - Meeting ID: **880 1655 2466**
 - Meeting Passcode: **941894**
 - Tel: **1 (778) 907-2071**

Livestream available on Facebook.

To **participate** in the meeting you must attend via **ZOOM**. *Questions will not be taken from Facebook.*



Yuutu?it?ath

HITAĆU ASSEMBLY - KEY RULES OF ORDER

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND WHAT IT MEANS:

When the hitaću assembly starts, an adoption of the agenda will be called by the Chairperson. At this time, Yuułu?i?ath citizens may suggest (*propose*) additional agenda items. *Government Act, 4.6(b)*.

The adoption of the agenda, with the addition (*inclusion*) or rejection (*exclusion*) of additional agenda items presented by the citizens, will be determined by approval of a motion. The approval of a motion is achieved by a majority of the eligible voters (*citizens*) present and voting. *Government Act, 4.6(c)*.

ASSEMBLY MEETING EXAMPLE:



Motion: The Chairperson will call for a voter (*citizen*) to “move” a motion to adopt the agenda as presented [or as amended with additions]. This is done by a raise of the hand, in person or on zoom. Any eligible voter can raise their hand to move the adoption of the agenda.

Second: Once the motion is moved, the Chairperson will look for a voter (*citizen*) to “second” the motion. This is done by a raise of the hand, in person or on zoom. Any eligible voter can raise their hand to move the adoption of the agenda.

Vote: The Chairperson will put the motion to a vote by asking voters (*citizens*) if they are in favour or opposed of the agenda. **If a majority of the eligible voters vote in favour**, the motion is carried, and the agenda is adopted. This allows for the meeting to proceed. **If the majority is opposed** to the agenda items, the meeting will end.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- The Chairperson must follow (*adhere to*) the agenda adopted. *Government Act 4.6(d)*.
- The Chairperson must allow (*afford*) a representative of the Yuułu?i?ath Government the opportunity to make a report or presentation on each agenda item. *Government Act, 4.6(e)*.
- Following any presentation or report, citizens will be allowed (*permitted the opportunity*) to raise questions or ask for (*seek*) clarification in relation to that specific agenda item. *Government Act, 4.6(f)*.
- Each speaker (*citizen*) will be permitted a maximum of five minutes to ask (*frame*) a question or make a statement. The Chairperson must recognize an individual to respond to the question or call on a new speaker (*citizen*). *Government Act, 4.6(i)*.
- If the original speaker (*citizen*) wishes to continue the topic or raise a following (*subsequent*) question, the Chairperson must place that speaker (*citizen*) at the end of the speakers list. *Government Act, 4.6(j)*.
- All questions and discussions must be presented and spoken (*advanced*) in a respectful manner. *Government Act, 4.6(g)*.
- A speaker (*citizen*) may make a motion to get (*obtain*) a resolution of the hitaću assembly on the agenda item being addressed which would constitute a recommendation to the Yuułu?i?ath Government. *Government Act, 4.7(a)*.
- Every Yuułu?i?ath citizen that is (has attained) the age of 16 has the right to vote on any resolution presented at the hitaću assembly. *Constitution, 2.29*.
- The chairperson must maintain order at a meeting of the hitaću assembly and has the authority to rule any speaker out of order or remove an individual for unruly behavior. *Government Act, 4.6(k)*.



NOTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH YUULU?IL?ATH LAW

HITACU ASSEMBLY

In accordance with Section 4.2 of the *Government Act* YFNS 2/2011, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the hitacu Assembly has been called for the following date:

Date: Monday, November 25, 2024
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: ~~Cixwatin Centre Gym, hitacu~~ / Zoom only

DRAFT AGENDA

The agenda is in draft form until approved by the Citizens at the meeting of the hitacu Assembly. Additional items may be added at the time we adopt the agenda.

1. Call to order
2. Opening Ceremonies/Welcoming remarks
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Executive Reports
5. Other
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
6. Adjournment

Zoom Instructions

Dial In #: 1 (778) 907-2071
Meeting ID: 880 1655 2466
Passcode: 941894

Voting on Zoom

When the Chairperson calls for a vote, the Chairperson will request that eligible voters on Zoom use the "raise hand" feature on Zoom (click *Reactions* > *Raise Hand*), or state their full name followed by "yay" or "nay".



HITAĆU ASSEMBLY EXECUTIVE REPORT

Prepared by: Charles McCarthy

Date: November 20, 2024

Executive Portfolio: President / Lands and Resources

PORTFOLIO HIGHLIGHTS:

New Legislation

- On October 15, 2024, the Legislature enacted the *Real Property Tax Act YFNS 86/2024*.
 - Effective for the 2025 taxation year, the Province will fully withdraw from property taxation on Treaty Lands of Treaty First Nations and will no longer impose a requirement for property taxation to apply on those lands.
 - YG has entered into a new Real Property Tax Agreement with the Province under BC's new legislative framework.
 - The newly enacted Real Property Tax Act implements this broad delegation approach around real property taxation that the Province has reframed, which gives more flexibility and discretion in the way YG issues and imposes property taxes on Yuutu?it?ath lands.

Intergovernmental Affairs

- The Land Claims Agreement Coalition (LCAC) and Self-Governing Indigenous Governments (SGIG) Lobby Week took place in Ottawa from October 28 to October 31, 2024. There were over 50 SGIG representatives present including a mixture of leaders and their fiscal and legislative technical staff. I attended and spoke at meetings with the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and the Prime Minister's Office.
 - Discussions held in Ottawa involved challenging political dynamics. While the Conservative Party of Canada is blocking all movement at the parliament, parties are preparing for the next election and making strategic decisions. The conservatives have frozen cabinet on both the legislative and fiscal efforts, which affects the Self-Governing

Indigenous Governments (SGIG) in progressing on fiscal matters related to modern treaty nation rights.

- The SGIG group is hopeful that if we keep lobbying, keep being a 'squeaky wheel' to Ministers, we could get cabinet approval on fiscal matters before a change in government.
- YG was well represented in Ottawa at the SGIG and LCAC tables and contributed great efforts to the progress of both the LCAC and SGIG priorities. We networked well with other nations and our voice and perspective is well respected
- Highlights:
 - Bill S-13, amendment to the Interpretation Act, to ensure that all federal laws are to be interpreted to uphold the constitutional rights of First Nations, Inuit and Métis, was recently referred unanimously to a committee. This is a positive move in the house of commons awaiting the Ministers committee appearance for final motion.
 - Bill C-77 Commissioner to Modern Treaty Implementation, an act is awaiting a second reading at the House of Commons. It will also have to go through Senate. NDP are in support of Bill C-77.

Lands and Resources

- Ongoing Specific Claim negotiations with Canada address the mismanagement of former IR #2 and Infill Lands at the MacMillan Bloedel log sort. Contaminated site studies will continue through 2025, followed by site remediation upon completion of the negotiations.
- A letter to the Ministry of Water, Lands, and Resource Stewardship was delivered in July 2024, notifying them of the desire to acquire the parcels of land identified as "Subject Lands" within the Maa-nulth Final Agreement. These parcels are intended to be added to Treaty Settlement Lands. The process and conditions for the offer to purchase are anticipated.
- The work on the Saasin Čačimḥiyap Garden has continued. Volunteer nights will begin in the new year.
- A Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreement (FTOA) was signed with the Province of British Columbia for a Non-Replaceable Forest License (NRFL), granting the rights to harvest 83,060 m³ from three designated operating areas within the traditional territory, including Effingham and Nahmint.

- The Lands and Resources department has closed up the camera trap project monitoring project for the year, which monitors large mammals, specifically Roosevelt elk, throughout the Nahmint Valley. This project is a collaboration between YG, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government and BC to assess year-round elk occurrence and distribution throughout the valley.
- The Nahmint fish habitat and restoration project at the lower Nahmint river was completed over the fall. The goal of this project is to enhance rearing habitat for Chinook salmon. We are anticipating juvenile Chinook Salmon to use this habitat in the spring.
- Bi-weekly aerial monitoring of marine mammals by Lands and Resources Staff is on-going. The monitoring provides data on humpback, gray whale, and orca whereabouts in relation to large shipping vessel lanes. Seal and Sea Lion counts within the Nahmint Estuary are also on-going.
- We had a successful FSC fish harvest this year, completing most of the allocations and distributions.

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

- Parks Canada Co-operative Management Board Meeting – September 26
- Special Legislature Meetings – October 7 and 15
- ACRD Inclusive Governance Workshop (for Yuuʷuʷiʷʷath Traditional Territory welcome) – October 18
- LCAC and SGIG Lobby Week – October 28 to 31
- Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations Leadership Meeting – November 18
- Monthly Maa-nulth Treaty Society Board of Directors Meetings
- Regular Bi-weekly and Special Executive Meetings

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- Parks Canada Long Beach Unit Management Planning Meeting – November 27
- Marine Leadership Gathering in Parksville – December 2-3
- Maa-nulth Reasonable Opportunity Agreement Management Working Group Annual Meeting in Port Alberni – December 4
- Leadership Meeting with District of Ucluelet – December 5
- Marine Shipping Sub-Committee Meeting in Delta – December 17-18

Charles McCarthy
President



EXECUTIVE REPORT - CULTURE, LANGUAGE & HERITAGE

Prepared by huupk"ista?ags Asya Touchie - Member of the Executive for the hita?u Assembly November 25/24

The Department of Culture, Language, and Heritage continues to preserve, strengthen, and celebrate our Yuutu?it?ath language, culture, and traditions. Language revitalization programs remain a top priority as the department works to increase the number of Yuutu?it?ath speakers and teachers. This year, the department has focused on developing resources and opportunities to support both learners and future teachers. These efforts aim to ensure that our language not only survives but thrives for generations to come.

The department continue to offer hands-on opportunities for cultural learning and practice. Recent activities included devil's club harvesting and medicine-making workshops, where participants gained valuable knowledge about traditional practices and uses. These programs foster community connections and strengthen our cultural identity.

The department has made strides in creating new display cases to showcase our cultural treasures. These artifacts hold deep significance, reflecting the history, stories, and resilience of our people. Providing access to these items ensures that our citizens can learn from and take pride in their heritage.

The departments team is also actively conducting archaeological site assessments to support developments within Yuutu?it?ath traditional territories. This work safeguards the cultural and historical integrity of our lands while supporting responsible development. For Indigenous governments like ours, rooted in reconciliation and modern treaty relationships, protecting these sites is essential. It ensures our connection to the land is recognized and respected while upholding our treaty obligations and values.

I want to thank the citizens of Yuutu?it?ath for their continued support and participation in these vital programs. Together, we are building a stronger foundation for our language, culture, and heritage.



EXECUTIVE REPORT - CULTURE, LANGUAGE & HERITAGE

Prepared by huupk^wista?ags Asya Touchie - Member of the Executive for the hita?u Assembly November 25/24

MEETINGS

Executive Meetings - Oct. 1, Oct. 15, Nov. 12

Special Executive Meeting - Oct. 25, Nov. 4, Nov, 20

Department of Culture, Language & Heritage Update Meetings - Sept. 27, Nov. 8

UPCOMING

Executive Meetings - bi-weekly

Department of Culture, Language & Heritage Update Meetings - bi-weekly

huupk^wista?ags - Asya Touchie

Executive Member - Culture Language & Heritage



HITAĆU ASSEMBLY EXECUTIVE REPORT

Prepared by: Gert Touchie

Date: November 20, 2024

Executive Portfolio: Community Services

PORTFOLIO HIGHLIGHTS:

- FNHA survey ask questions what you think is missing, and needed.
- Halloween – Magician
- Interviews for DOO-CFO-HD, Hired Lands and Resource Director
- Monthly updates for Community Services
- Accepted applications for Citizenship.
- First Parks meeting.
- CBT -

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

- CBT
- FNHA Health Caucus
- Executive Meetings
- Personnel Committee
- Community Service
- Citizenship Committee
- Parks Canada

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- Community Service committee,
- Parks Canada
- CBT
- LCAC TreatyConference

Gert Touchie

Executive Member



HITACU ASSEMBLY EXECUTIVE REPORT

Prepared by: Lorri Touchie

Date: Sept 22, 2024 to Nov 25, 2024

Executive Portfolio: Finance Portfolio

Portfolio Highlights:

- A. Internal Meetings Attended:
- B. Finance Department Updates
- C. Upcoming Activities

Portfolios Details:

A. Meetings Attended:

Internal Meetings & External Meetings:

- Biweekly Executive Meetings: Oct 1, Oct 12, Nov 12
- Biweekly Bilateral Meetings with CFO: Sept 30, Oct 11, Nov 11,
- Special Executive Meetings: Oct :3, Oct 7, Oct 15, Oct 25, Nov 4
- Legislature Meetings: Oct 1, Oct 7
- Finance Committee Meetings: Oct 21, Oct 25
- Assembly Meetings: Sept 22, Nov 25
- External Meetings:
- No external meetings for this period

B. Finance Department Updates:

- **CFO Position:** Unfortunately, our CFO hiring announced at last Assembly fell through, with our Interim CFO continuing in the role. Following further interviews, we are finalizing the employment agreement for a permanent CFO commencing Jan 2025. The anticipated individual has significant First Nation experience.

- **Department Access to Financial Information:**

A focus of Finance since September has been enabling Department Directors and other designated staff. Managers and Executive Assistants have access to their respective departments and/or program up to date financial information. Training of required staff is complete and access to the required financial info is commencing. This will enhance the ability of departments to soundly manage their respective departments. Any financial reports to our funders will still require approval and sign-off by the CFO.

- **2025/2026 Budget:**

The 2025/2026 Budget process is underway. Finance distributed 2024/25 year to date (April to Oct 2024) departmental and program financial information to all departments, plus YG's strategic plan. The interim CFO has had initial meeting with each Department Director/Manager, with focus being vision, strategic priorities, key day to day functions and YG/Departments – taking a qualitative perspective to the budget process prior to number crunching. Next step will be clarification from the Executive.

- **Key Functions and Staffing:**

Core Finance functions continue, with key tasks as bank and credit card reconciliations, payroll and payments being done on a timely basis.

Our most recent staff member who commenced mid-September has successfully transitioned in to their role. We continue to us as needed, given short one position, two contractors on part basis, with one focused on reports and the other on reconciliations and supporting the interim CFO. Such has enabled Finance and YG to meet its obligations.

C. Upcoming Activities:

- Biweekly Executive Meetings
- Biweekly Meeting with CFO
- NTG Annual Assembly: Nov 26
- Celebrating 50 Years of Modern Treaties: Feb 25 & Feb 26 - Virtually

Respectfully yours,

Signature: Lorri Touchie