HAIDA LAAS
News of the Haida Nation
DECEMBER 2010

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ATHLII GWALL
25th ANNIVERSARY
November 2010
The Best of the Season
to everyone on these
shining Islands.

from the
Council of the Haida Nation;
representatives & staff

SPEAK UP!
The phrases highlighted in this issue are for using at formal occasions. If you require help with pronunciation or want to further your knowledge, contact the language group in your village.

I am proud to be Haida.
OM - díi Xaadas ahl sahs gudangaa.
AK - Áayaad díi Xaat’áas eehl díi gudangáay i’waan-gang.
SKG: Ahaay.yad díi XaaydaGas ad díi guudang.ngaay ‘yu-wan ga.

My precious friends.
OM - díi tuuwiini kuuyaa isis
AK: Díi tawláng kuyáas is
SKG: Dii hltaaxuulang kuuya isis.

All esteemed Ladies, all Chiefs.
OM - díi tuuwiinni kuuyaa isis
AK: K’úl Jáad Gáangaa, Kílsdaay Gáangaa
SKG: K’uljad Gaanga, Kilslaay Gaanga.

DID YOU KNOW?
Did you know that Haida Gwaii’s land mass is the equivalent of 1 million hectares?

Cover: Youth representatives, Jaadgaljuus yakgujanaas and Tyrone Young show the blanket that arrested on Athlìi Gwaii received during the celebration.
Please Note: There have been a couple of revisions made to Athlìi Gwàii - 25 Years Down the Road, which was handed out at the celebration on November 13th. The TFL 39 case was won in 2002 not 2001 as noted and additional entries have been made to illustrate the TFL Case winding its way through the courts. The updated copy is inserted in this issue of Haida Laas.

FISHERIES MANAGER HIRED

The Secretariat of the Haida Nation is pleased to announce that Brad Setso has been hired as the Fisheries Program Manager and that he will commence his duties immediately; we welcome Brad to the Management Team and look forward to building a stronger Fisheries Program.

ADKINS & HAGEMAN AWARDED

Two Haida artists received a BC Creative Achievement Award for First Nations’ Art this year. Alvin Adkins was recognized for his works of more than thirty years in jewellery, wood carving and print making. It was Lisa Hageman’s passion and skill at weaving Raven’s Tail that garnered her the provincial recognition.

The juried competition acknowledges artistic excellence and cultural significance of First Nations’ art. Recipients receive a $2,500 prize and the use of the British Columbia Creative Achievement Award seal.

COMING INTO THE HOUSE

The Coming into the House Song also known as the Lyell Island Song is now the Nation’s official anthem. The song has an honourable and storied history having been used on many occasions, at the House of Assembly and other functions, and most notably at Athlìi Gwàii in 1985. As reported in the October issue of Haida Laas the CHN has now officially adopted the song as the Haida Nation’s anthem.

Coming into the House, the National Anthem of the Haida Nation.
Yo ho wee
Yo ha wee yo wee yah
Hey hi yo
Ha wee ah wee yah wee yah
Hey hi yo ha wee
Ah wee ah-ha
Ah wee-ee ah wee yah

LOG SUPPLY AVAILABLE

Taan Forest Ltd. has logs available for purchase by Islanders in a variety of species and sorts.

If you require small volumes of logs please contact Brian Arnold at 604.788.6521 or brian@taanforest.com to discuss your detailed needs.

If you are seeking longer-term log supply for an ongoing and/or proposed business venture, please contact Bob Brash at 778.386.7759 or brash@taanforest.com to discuss details.

AWARDS & WINNERS

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Congratulations to Councillor Cecil Brown and new Councillors Danny Matthews and Ron Brown, Jr. who were elected to the Old Massett Village Council December 6, 2010.

Councillors Leslie Williams, Lisa White, Harold Yeltatzie and Chief Councillor, John T Jones, all have one year remaining in their terms. There were 219 votes cast in this election.
True Grit

By Justine Parnell

Students graduating from Queen Charlotte Secondary in 2011 have it all figured out when it comes to life after high school! They have figured out where they want to go and what careers they wish to pursue. But, just because they know what they want today doesn’t mean they know what they want tomorrow – things do change. I interviewed a few grade twelve students from Skidegate on what they want to do after high school and was surprised and encouraged by their plans.

I spoke first to Josh Vandal who wants to pursue a certificate in criminology. He would like to go to Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Vancouver right after high school so he can get a head start on becoming an RCMP officer. He is very interested in law enforcement and very confident that in twenty years he will be an RCMP officer stationed here on Haida Gwaii.

Mike Gravelle intends to work for a year before pursuing auto-mechanics at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. “Auto-mechanics is something I have always been interested in and I like to do it,” he declared. Mike wants to take a year off before continuing school so that he can get used to being independent, working and paying bills. In twenty years he wants to own his own business.

Natasha Thompson spoke about getting her Bachelor of Science degree either at Camosun or Langara College. She would like to become a pathologist or a chemist. She has a lot of interest in chemicals and the study of diseases. Twenty years from now she plans to be in a lab looking at slides through a microscope.

Lucas Shoop is going to take a year off after high school to work and then pursue electrical engineering at the Canadian University College in Alberta or Vancouver Island University. He said he would like to make some money before going off to school. “I want to do electrical engineering because it’s something I’m good at, it’s something I know,” he said, and twenty years from now he hopes to be very successful with a nice house.

Cassandra Moody exclaimed that if she doesn’t become a famous singer she would like to get an Early Childhood Education diploma from Vancouver Island University. She also intends to travel the world.

These are only a few of the grade twelve students with big dreams and hopefully they come true. As for me, I received a full two-year scholarship to Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific to work for an International Baccalaureate Diploma. Twenty years from now I will be a travel journalist, writing for an international magazine or newspaper. All of these students are very confident that they will achieve their goals in whichever career they decide upon. Even though what they want now may not be what they want in a year or a month, one thing they do know is that they will be successful.

RESOURCES
Canadian University College - cauc.ca
Camosun College – camosun.ca
Vancouver Islands University - viu.ca
Kwantlen Polytechnic University - kwantlen.ca
British Columbia Institute of Technology – bcit.ca
Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific – pearsoncollege.ca
Lyell’s Enduring Legacies

by Christine Pansino, Gwaii Haanas

Three hundred guests were welcomed in mid-November by Gwaii Haanas staff and the CHN to the *Legacies of Lyell* celebration at the Haida Heritage Centre. The occasion marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the historic events that took place at Lyell Island and the event celebrated the many legacies that followed including the move to set aside Gwaii Haanas as a protected area.

At *Legacies of Lyell* guests learned about specific projects and programs that have emerged from the stand on Lyell Island. A few of the highlights were: the Skidegate Haida Immersion Program’s, Place Names Map which identifies Haida names for much of Gwaii Haanas; the Action on the Ground program which focuses in-part on salmon habitat restoration on Lyell Island; and the addition of the new National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, the first of its kind in Canada.

On display were videos, documents and a photo gallery of images commemorating those people who were arrested twenty-five years ago on Athlii Gwaii and the many people who played important support roles on Lyell and in the communities.

After enjoying an array of finger foods everyone gathered in the Performing House to hear the Council of the Haida Nation, Parks Canada, Gwaii Haanas, World Wildlife Fund representatives and others, share their thoughts on the great number of achievements attained over two and a half decades.

The *Legacies of Lyell* was an opportunity to hear many stories about Haida Gwaii and it got people excited for the Athlii Gwaii Feast being held the following night.

Top: Gwaii Haanas Superintendent, Ernie Gladstone was presented with a woven headdress made by Lisa Hageman. As required by tradition, Gladstone danced the headdress to an enthusiastic and boisterous crowd. The headband is now part of the regalia to be used by the Superintendent position during public functions.

Right: GwaaxGanad, Diane Brown, ponders the photos posted in the *Memories of Lyell Photo Gallery*. The gallery displayed portraits of those arrested, scenes from on the line and camp life. Also displayed were newspaper clippings and other memorabilia from the Gwaii Haanas archives.
Teamwork, cooperation and respect are essential skills when you are in the business of land or ocean planning. Planning is all about concepts and the meaning of words, and it takes a certain type of person to dig in and stick with it; one must work on the detail while keeping in mind the big picture. Fortunately the CHN has numerous people with that skill set and has two teams in the land-planning department with the know-how to accomplish this work.

The House of Assembly adopted Kaay Guu Ga ga Kyah ts’as - Gin ̓inaas ‘laas waddluwan gud tl’a gud giidaa, the Haida Stewardship Law at the 2010 House of Assembly and ratified the Land Use Objectives Order, October 2010. The Province of BC signed their Land Use Order, December 15, 2010, which will finally put in place the new Ecosystem-based Management System under provincial law. This order lays out the rules for existing Forest Stewardship and Woodlot Licence Plans to conform to within six months of the signing date.

“It is only through this kind of cooperation, that we can protect Haida cultural values, look after the land, wildlife and waterways and still provide opportunities for a sustainable economy,” says Guujaaw, President of the Haida Nation.

Once these orders take effect a monitoring process will be designed to make sure the new management system is accomplishing what was intended. If there are areas that aren’t meeting expectations and changes are needed then the newly formed Haida Gwaii Management Council will have the authority make the necessary adjustments.

Land planning began in earnest in 2001 when CHN signed a protocol with the province to cooperatively work on a land use plan that would be guided by ecosystem-based management. Two years later, in 2003, a community planning process began, which worked over the next 18 months eventually produced recommendations for a government-to-government negotiation. The negotiation ended in 2007 with a Strategic Land Use Agreement (SLUA) and since that time the CHN and province have been negotiating, designing and building the new ecosystem-based framework by which forests will be managed.
Celebrating Our Victories

It was a day many had waited for. Expectations were high, and it all came together November 13th when over 600 hundred people gathered to celebrate a past event that set a new course for First Nations and beamed the soul of the Haida Nation into living rooms across Canada and around the world. The blockade and arrests at Athlii Gwaii in 1985 revealed the depth and commitment of the Haida Nation to Haida Gwaii.

Dang Ga Ilnagaay ‘laas guu hla jii. nga dii xaaynanga da, upon your good land let me live long. It was upon the land at Athlii Gwaii that a line was drawn, backed up by a history and reputation that few nations can match. Ethel Jones, Ada Yovanovich, Aldolphus Marks and Watson Price took their place there against the wishes and worries of those many years younger and began a process, which culminated twenty-five years later at the George Brown Recreation Centre in Skidegate.

The Athlii Gwaii 25th Anniversary was organized to celebrate the accomplishment of “pulling off” the stand at Lyell and to acknowledge all of those who played a part in those events.

“Today we are on a new path,” MC Percy Crosby said. “In some ways it is reminiscent of 1985, the economy is down, people need work, but the big difference is that now we are in charge, we say how things are going to be done, we say how the Islands’ economy is going to grow and we say what our future will be.”

The 10-hour event rolled out smoothly with groups from Prince Rupert, Vancouver, Old Masset and Skidegate filling the hall with dancers of all ages. Mythical beasts were represented, crests displayed and guests were treated to a reenactment of the stand at Lyell.

Throughout the evening, speakers addressed the crowd, talking about their personal experience on-the-line, the work of providing support for the camp, and the impact that Athlii Gwaii had in Canada and around the world.

The impact and legacy felt here on the Islands was apparent in the hall, with banners announcing the institutions that were born out of the blockade: two capital funds – Gwaii Trust & Gwaii Forest – and Gwaii Haanas. Also evident was the Council of the Haida Nation’s twenty-five years of negotiation, court cases, skirmishes and actions that resulted in over fifty-percent of Haida Gwaii being placed under various forms of protection, all of which include a large component of Haida management. And, the remaining land base will be treated in a manner that respects the tradition and knowledge of the Haida Nation.

[ Event photos next page. ]
BILL FISCHER, Director General, Western & Northern Canada, Parks Canada. “The story of Lyell Island is one that will be told for generations, and as a way to commemorate and support the story of Lyell ... Parks Canada will commission and raise a totem pole in honour of the historic stand on Lyell Island.” •

PETER LANTIN, Chair of the Gwaii Trust acknowledged past Chairs – Frank Parnell, Miles Richardson Jr., Ken Rae – and their contribution to growing the fund. Peter said he didn’t originally understand the significance or importance of Lyell Island. But twenty-five years later he does; speaking to young people he cautioned patience and said the things you are learning today will make sense in years to come and you will realize the importance of these... •

GWAGANAAD, Diane Brown held her two grandchildren, Xyaala’a and Ganhlaans, to illustrate her motivation for standing on the line. She said she had many memories of those times, of Gaahlalay and others. She remembered one of her earliest heroes, Ethel Jones, making a speech at a CHN meeting when Ethel was just twenty years old. “She was one of the first female Elders to impact me,” she said. •

MILES RICHARDSON JR. was president of the Haida Nation during the Lyell Island years. He was in fine form extending his allotted speaking time with humour. “We’re celebrating a moment where our generation took matters into our own hands and stood together in defence of our nationhood. We were successful because of our focus, commitment and the truth we are standing on,” he said, and continued, “To all the young people, just remember that if we believe and stand on Title and the ownership of Haida Gwaii ... if we trust our culture and pull together, anything is possible.” •

SVEND ROBINSON flew in from Geneva, Switzerland to take part in the celebration. As a young member of parliament he stood on the line with the Haida Nation and was adopted by Ada Yovanovich. He said he particularly remembered Colleen Williams singing songs on the line. •

PERCY WILLIAMS recalled his first meeting with Thom Henley. He said it was like a strange animal coming towards me, waving. It was in fact a kayak being paddled by Thom Henley – it was their first meeting. They met again twelve years later when Thom and Guujaaw walked into a meeting at the Skidegate Band Council with a map and a line drawn across Tangile Peninsula. That line today is the northern boundary of Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area and Haida Heritage Site. •
1 & 2. Nika Collison and Jenny Cross performing. The HlGaagilda Children’s Dance Group performed a re-enactment of the events at Lyell Island complete with boats, workers and the RCMP. 3. Eagle Dancer, Delbert Smith, a member of the Prince Rupert Haida Eagle Dancers. 4. Elder, Margaret Edgars, attended from Old Massett. 5. Volunteer, Nathan Ridley, with artist, Stephen Mitchell, a study in cool. 6. Hope Setso settling in for a good read. 7. Daphne White puts pen to paper in one of the guest books that circulated throughout the hall during the celebration.

Also performing were the Tu’ul gandlen xyall xaadaa, Rainbow Creek Dancers, who entertained the audience with humour and song.
LAWRENCE JONES was with the first group that travelled down to set up camp on Lyell Island. He was conscripted to cook but when Waneeta Richardson, Roberta Olsen and LaVerne Davies showed up he found other things to do. “Being part of this, today, makes me feel good because of all that we have accomplished in the past twenty-five years,” he said. Lawrence is currently an Old Massett representative on the Council of the Haida Nation.

APRIL CHURCHILL, Vice-president of the Haida Nation said, “If we take care of the land, Haida Gwaii will take care of us.” She called upon anyone who touches the lives of children to help guide them as the ancestors have guided us. “Help them find what they have been called to do. ... The work is not done, we are still fighting [for] title,” she said.

SGAANN 7IW7WAANS, Allan Wilson spoke with passion about his involvement on Lyell Island as an arresting officer for the RCMP. The Elders who were led away that first day told him, “If we are going to be arrested it is going to be done by you.” The other Haida RCMP officer present that day was Robert Mills, now Chief Councillor of the Skidegate Band Council.

GUUJAAW, President of the Haida Nation, said, “We can celebrate now because at the time, we knew what we were doing was right, we knew what was at stake for our people was our whole culture.” “As with all societies, Haida culture is also made up of all types of people but regardless of the differences we have with each other we all agree that the land and culture have to be looked after.”

“The success of our stand for Gwaii Haanas depended upon the support of people around the world, it was important that we had our neighbours with us.”

Guujaaw told the crowd of the plight of the people in Peru, and how 200 people were killed making a stand to protect their land. He said these people came to the Haida Nation for help.

“I urge our people to think about the other places around the world that call out to us, we’ve got a good history ... our ancestors made themselves known in the world in a way that gives us the ability to stand up and people know exactly who is talking,” said Guujaaw.

JOHN T JONES, Old Massett Village Chief Councillor, spoke about the emotional journey he experienced coming up to the celebration and on Lyell Island. He went on to say that the fight is not only about the land, it’s about the water too. “If we have to go on the line again, we will go to the line, so please keep that in mind... NO to Enbridge!”

John T. Jones, Old Massett Village Chief Councillor, spoke about the emotional journey he experienced coming up to the celebration and on Lyell Island. He went on to say that the fight is not only about the land, it’s about the water too. “If we have to go on the line again, we will go to the line, so please keep that in mind... NO to Enbridge!”
1. Leona Clow enjoying the day. 2. Bruce Cockburn performed three songs to an attentive and enthusiastic audience. 3. L-R: Cpl Ron Masch, Sgt Rob Knapton, Cst Derrick Gladdish from the Queen Charlotte RCMP Detachment and Sgt Grant MacDonald from Massett. 4. As most people know it takes a lot of effort to pull off a feast. Over one hundred and fifty people volunteered and donated to the event. 5. L-R: Colleen Williams, Waneeta Richardson and Rose Russ dance after receiving their Athlii Gwaii blanket. 6. The Tluu Xaada Naay dance group from Old Massett quieted the crowd with some remarkable singing and explosive dancing.
An Update from HaiCo

Following is a brief overview of HaiCo operations as they have developed over the past eighteen months.

**Board of Directors**
The HaiCo Board of Directors has been appointed, and met on December 6, 2010. The board consists of the Interim Chair, Roslyn Kunin and Directors Reg Davidson, Culture; Patrick McGuire, Economics; Thomas Olsen, Bill Dumont, Forestry; and Kelly Russ, Legal. The next board meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2011.

**Structure**
The Haida Enterprise Corporation structure was set up as part of the Haida Independence Project to provide a vehicle to begin building an economy on Haida Gwaii. It was seen as necessary to set up this entity as it would give the necessary attention to economic matters but be arms length from political matters.

The schematic (next page) outlines how the business structure is envisioned. It will allow for modifications as the organization develops and this structure is tested.

The efficiency of the structure is that the Board and administrative burden remain with HaiCo and are administered over the broad base of subsidiary enterprises that will be created. The individual enterprise will be differentiated by business activity and each would be intended to have its own management, which will report up through the HaiCo structure to have its mandate and budget approved. This will effectively give the HaiCo governance a broad purview over all of the business enterprises.

**Economic Strategic Plan**
HaiCo is facilitating discussion between CHN and the two community councils in an effort to form a strategic economic agenda for HaiCo. A draft report has summarized the work undertaken in Phase 1, as the facilitators and HaiCo team worked through the design process. The second stage is expected to result in an economic strategic plan by June of 2011.

**Office Space**
HaiCo is in the process of setting up its corporate offices. We have been working out of Coastal First Nations in Vancouver and are setting up offices on Haida Gwaii, with a satellite office at the Roger’s Building in Vancouver (470 Granville Street). Occupation of both offices is planned for early 2011.

**Forestry**
HaiCo has created one business – forestry – under the incorporated name of Taan Forest Ltd. This is an undertaking that is considering the purchase of the Western Forest Products TFL on Haida Gwaii along with the Provincial offer to CHN of a Forest License. The combined volume under these two tenures is approximately 520,000 m³ of annual harvest. Taan Forest Ltd. is in operation on the TFL now through an interim management agreement between Taan and WFP and has harvested 30,000 m³ of logs in 2010 and is tendering bids on another 60,000 m³ of logs to be harvested in the first quarter of 2011.

Taan expects that the TFL 60 acquisition will be completed early in 2011 and at that point will start to reconfigure the forestry operations to meet some of the new objectives and business goals.

**Tourism**
HaiCo has been in negotiation to conclude the purchase of the Tlell River House. This includes the lodge and the big game hunting licenses for the areas on Haida Gwaii. The negotiations have been completed between the Olmstead’s and HaiCo. There are, however, policy components regarding the ongoing use of the guide outfitter licenses to be worked out between the Haida Nation and provincial government.

The Tlell River House includes approximately 8.6 acres on the Tlell River in addition to other buildings which make up the operation. The current configuration contains a restaurant and a boutique-style lodge with ten rooms. This operation is intended to be the beginning of a HaiCo tourism subsidiary with the intention of collaborating with Old Massett, Skidegate, and the Chiefs’ Council on a broader tourism undertaking.

**Aquaculture**
Through research and development over the past three years led by Coastal First Nations and their business arm the Great Bear Initiative, the hybrid weathervane
scallop has been determined as the best monoculture species to start the aquaculture business with. HaiCo is now assembling the resources for a large-scale scallop aquaculture initiative. Site selection is in process and work is being planned for the placement of infrastructure in the first quarter of 2011. A subsidiary company under HaiCo will be incorporated for this activity and this company will work directly with Coastal Shellfish Corporation (Coastal First Nations and the Great Bear Initiative) which will be supplying seed and technical expertise.

While initially our goal is to focus on growing scallops through seed husbandry within four farm sites, other monocultures are being examined for incorporation into the plan over the next decade. The initial start would see HaiCo raising 10,000,000 scallops annually and increasing our capacity over the grow-out period of five years and further expanding our seed source to 25,000,000 planted annually.

**Energy**

HaiCo has been engaged in wind energy discussions with NaiKun and focussing on other alternative energy strategies through the first half of 2010.

The urgency of the wind project has passed as NaiKun did not receive a contract in the BC Hydro power call-out. Simon Fraser University has been contacted by the CHN to do an impartial review of the project prior to General Vote. A General Vote to decide about going into business with NaiKun was committed to by the House of Assembly.

Great Bear Initiative/Coastal First Nations (GBI/CFN) have done a lot of research in the area of alternate energy and since HaiCo has undertaken operations with Taan Forest, we have been more focused on finding alternatives for using the low value fibre that becomes a by-product of the harvesting operations.

Thomas Olsen of HaiCo along with Bob Brash of Taan Forest Ltd Partnership have been in ongoing discussions with the GBI/CFN, FP Innovations and the BC Bioenergy Council on pursuing a number of ideas around energy alternatives.

The CHN, Skidegate Band Council and Old Massett Village Council are members of GBI/CFN and there is the beginning of a collaborative effort in finding some short-term solutions to eliminating the diesel generation for electricity and the dependency on carbon-emitting energy production.

Taan Forest’s ongoing harvesting is able to supply much of the low grade fibre that could potentially feed into a bio energy plant. These are some of the opportunities that are being explored.

HaiCo is looking at funding sources that could move a pilot project forward in collaboration with GBI/CFN and other partnering organizations. HaiCo’s participation in the discussions at the GBI/CFN are in the early stages but there is a lot of merit in the benefits that the islands would see in a coordinated energy strategy.
CHN Code of Ethics

How do you Represent the Nation?

How do you represent the Haida people? What is a reasonable activity after the meetings are over and you have spare time? Those are questions that a motion put forward at the October 2010, House of Assembly sought to address.

Though the motion was defeated it did prompt lively discussion with as many diverse opinions as speakers.

The motion was defeated for a couple of reasons, one of which was that many of the items in the motion are covered in the CHN Code of Ethics, originally adopted-in-principle in 1999 and amended in 2000. The code covers one’s conduct in private and public, and, as with any set of guidelines, there is room for interpretation.

Following is the CHN-adopted Code:

CODE OF ETHICS

1. Authority: Pursuant to the Constitution of the Haida Nation, CHN Representatives, Village Councillors and Hereditary Chiefs will uphold the principles and dignity of the Haida Nation at all times.

2. CHN Representatives must:
   (a) Conduct their official duties with integrity and display the values of sincerity, honesty, frankness, truth, loyalty and fair dealing.
   (b) Conduct their official duties and responsibilities with competence, quality of service and serve the Nation in a conscientious, diligent and efficient manner as they serve the best interest of the Nation as a whole;
   (c) Encourage respect for their office by their conduct [and] general appearance. Communications with the public should continuously strive to improve the image of the office that they hold;
   (d) Be prompt, co-operative, courteous, honest, respectful and temperate while performing duties;
   (e) Make themselves available to the public in an efficient and convenient manner, which will create respect and confidence in the CHN;
   (f) Publicly represent CHN pursuant to the Constitution of the Haida Nation, and shall make clear, when expressing personal opinion, that it is not the position of the CHN.
   (g) NOT disclose any information acquired during the course of the CHN or Committee meetings where matters have been deemed confidential. Further, Representatives have a duty not to disclose any information acquired during their term of office or thereafter in regard to any matters that pertain directly or indirectly to individual members of the Nation;
   (h) NOT engage in public criticism of the CHN, Village Councils and/or the Hereditary/Chiefs’ Council in general, nor administration, nor the CHN Policies.

Adopted In-Principle, HOA June 1999
Adopted Amendments, HOA 2000

HOT DRINKS

Skidegate business and coffee-drinkers-heaven, Jags Beanstalk was honoured this month as a 2010 Outstanding Business at the BC Aboriginal Business Awards. The awards mark business excellence and an independent jury judges each submission on the business’s viability, sustainability and competitiveness.
Rising to the Challenge

by Vanessa Whiteknife

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be on the TV show *The Apprentice*? Erica Ryan-Gagne and I have: we were the successful applicants invited to attend the Young Entrepreneur Symposium in Vancouver and we set out to compete for $5000 cash.

Arriving on the evening of November 22nd, and with the challenge set to finish on the afternoon of the 24th, we did not know what to expect. After registration we were directed to “network” with other youth delegates from across Canada by introducing ourselves to people we had never met and getting to know each other. This was very hard for me as I am a shy person and tend to just keep to myself but after going around the room a couple of times, trying to avoid eye contact, I recognized a couple of faces and felt better.

The next morning, I viewed North Vancouver and the harbour at sunrise while eating breakfast on the 19th floor of the beautiful Renaissance Hotel. Everyone then gathered in the ballroom and Stan Wesley, our truly amazing MC, got the ball rolling. He directed every youth delegate to stand in a circle around the room and proceeded to pass the microphone around to everyone so that we could introduce ourselves. While we did that, he gave everyone a number from one to fourteen. As fate would have it, Erica ended up on my team! Another familiar face, Kristine Archie, who worked with the Skidegate Youth Council earlier this year also joined our team.

HAIDA CONSTITUTION AVAILABLE

The Haida Nation’s Constitution, revised in 2010, is now available. You can download a pdf at <www.haidanation.ca/Pages/CHN/Constitution.html> or pick up a copy at either the Old Massett or Skidegate CHN office.

continued next page
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Thunder.” I created our logo using Photoshop and a photo of Erica’s eagle tattoo. I cropped and sized her eagle and placed it atop a lightning bolt to create a “T.” We presented our name, slogan, and logo in a slideshow presentation featuring a team photo along with AC/DC’s “Thunderstruck” in the background.

Our next challenge was in sales. Each team was given a limited edition painting by Coast Salish artist, Bonny Krulicki. The judges would be marking teams on their sales strategy, teamwork and the amount of money the art was sold for.

We used the personal connections our team had and sold the painting to a law firm in Quebec for the staggering amount of $3000! Because we sold the piece for over $1000, our buyer was given a table for ten at Thursday night’s Gala Banquet. And since he was unable to make it, he donated the table back to us, raising the value of our sale to $4500! We filled the table with youth we invited from the surrounding Vancouver area.

The next challenge utilized our creativity. We were given a food blender and a twenty-dollar bill to create a smoothie, which would be judged on effectiveness, taste, and creativity. With the twenty dollars, we bought local and organic ingredients to mix up a drink we called the Thunder Zinger. Complete with a power bar gel, this smoothie shot is perfect for today’s busy entrepreneur. It keeps you healthy with vitamins and organic foods, and is also energized with the power gel. It tasted great for something that had vitamins in it!

Our final challenge in advertising and marketing had our team writing, directing and starring in our own Tim Horton’s commercial. The commercial was to be judged by the company owner himself! We brainstormed ideas, created storyboards, chose background music, and did voice-overs. After very long days and very late nights, I am pleased to announce that Thundering Eagle Ventures placed in the top three for every challenge and we placed first overall, winning ourselves $5000 cash!

This Young Entrepreneur Symposium was a huge success. The money raised by all delegates reached an approximate amount of $27,000! This money will be used to cover expenses from this symposium as well as to help fund future symposiums. It was fun, challenging, and a great networking opportunity for speakers and participants. We had a list of amazing speakers including Rick Hansen; Miss Canada, Ashley Callingbull; Tantoo Cardinal; Mike Tamaki; MLA Barry Penner, George Hemeon; Alvin Powell and many more that were empowering and inspiring. The friendships made here will last a lifetime and I am glad I was a part of it.

The Young Entrepreneur Symposium 2010 was sponsored by New Relationship Trust (NRT), Dreamcatcher Charitable Foundation (DCF), and the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB). I would like to extend a huge thank you to Clif Fregin (NRT) and Dan Brant (DCF) for making this all possible. •
Integrating Haida culture into the classroom was the subject of a Professional Development day this past September at the Haida Heritage Centre in Skidegate.

Debi Laughlin helped organize the event and explained to me what she was hoping to achieve with the Pro-D curriculum.

“It’s about creating culturally inclusive classrooms. There are so many activities involving Haida culture [which] can be used in every subject [in the school]. The Haida language teachers would like to focus on language and have more Haida culture taught by teachers in other subjects.

I had been talking to a student who said, ‘I’m too lazy to go to science.’ And I said, ‘Five-hundred years ago nobody would be lazy, there was too much to do.’ He responded, ‘They didn’t have science or math to deal with.’ But I told him ‘Yes, they did. Looking at plants and animals and deciding what they could use is science. Building canoes and carving is math.’

Haida [knowledge] can be used in every subject. For example, Haida myths and stories could be part of social studies; which villages were used for what, could be geography; the wildlife, forests, and oceans would be science. Teachers need to appeal to Haida youth by incorporating Haida culture in their curriculum – this way, students may be able to understand and make better sense of it.

The lessons were taught by: Ben Davidson, April Churchill, Denise Russ, Albert Hans, Joan Moody, Linda Tollas, Aaron Hans, Guujaaw, Jenny Cross, Sue Gladstone and the Elders of the Skidegate Haida Immersion Program. Nathalie Macfarlane and Cynthia Nicholl also presented.

Linda Tollas led the botanical walk to Spirit Lake and teachers learned the story of Wasco, what plants can be used medicinally, and how to gather and prepare edible plants and berries. They hiked as far as the culturally modified trees and Linda said the walk went very well.

Cedar weaving was a very popular lesson and was presented by

Pro-D – continued next page
April Churchill, Denise Russ and Albert Hans. I asked Denise what she was hoping teachers would learn and what they would take back to the classroom. “I hope to teach the teachers how to teach weaving to their students,” she said, and added that she would like to see teachers be more hands-on with students. She showed how to make headbands, bracelets and rope.

April Churchill expressed that she would like the teachers to know how Haida culture and society care for their relationship to the land. “It’s more than just weaving, it’s a part of who we are. When Haida people weave they weave with material they prepare themselves. Ninety percent of weaving a basket is preparation and relationship. We are connected to all things and classrooms need to reflect that connection,” she said.

Ben Davidson taught the basic shapes of Haida art and the five levels of becoming an artist. He said the first level is called Rudimentary, which is an awkward stage where you may need encouragement to carry on. The second level is Apprentice – Learning the alphabet: this is about learning the principles of the ovoid and U shape. The third level is Journeyman – Interpreting the Song: where you find and give meaning to art. The fourth level is Master – Mapping New Worlds where you don’t copy anymore, you make your own designs. And finally the fifth level is Artist, which is self-expression on the conscious and subconscious level. This final stage is where you have true expression and complete confidence in the language of Haida Art.

A Haida language lesson was taught by the Skidegate Haida Immersion Program (SHIP) and I asked Kevin Borserio what he wanted people to take away from the lesson. He said that he wanted teachers to understand what SHIP does, and who the Elders are. He added that he wants the teachers to know they can use the many resources SHIP has if they are interested in learning the language. The lesson that day involved the Skidegate Haida orthography, which is the
spelling system used by SHIP and common phrases and pronunciation.

Guujaaw was the Story Teller that day and I asked what he was hoping the teachers would learn from his presentation. “I hope the teachers learn particular lessons from each story. I would like everyone interested to take advantage of the resources available to them. Haida people need to keep track of who we are through these stories and how we got here. These stories are not fairy tales – they are history. I hope these stories will be brought into the school system and will give Haida youth a sense of security and a sense of who they are. If teachers have a better sense of who Haida people are they will have a better understanding of our culture,” he said.

The lesson about regalia, song and dance was presented by Jenny Cross, Sue Gladstone, Tyler Crosby and Joan Moody. The presentation showed the teachers the evolution of Haida regalia: who wears what regalia and why. They also shared a couple of songs and the proper way to dance to each song. By the end of the lesson teachers had been named the School District No.50 clan!

I wanted to get a teacher’s opinion on what they learned and what they would like to take back to their classroom.

First I asked Jennifer Jury from Queen Charlotte Secondary what lessons or presentations she attended and what she thought of them. Jennifer attended the Museum as a Resource workshop and found it very interesting. She was particularly taken by what the museum contains and how it works with the community. She also found Story Telling very interesting in the way particular beings came about and how the natural world, like sea urchins and salmon berries, are included in the stories.

I also asked a teacher from Sk’aadgaa Naay what they attended and learned. Tricia Jung attended Cedar Weaving, which she found very interesting. She wants to get the students she teaches to do some weaving although they may be a bit young. She also attended Story Telling and she would like to have an Elder come into her classroom and tell stories. She says she uses Haida culture in her classroom whenever possible.

James Reid who is also a teacher at Sk’aadgaa Naay attended Ben Davidson’s art workshop and thinks he would like to bring Ben into his class for a lesson sometime. James also explored the museum and found the archives very useful, and appreciated how people are available as resources.

From talking to the teachers, the hosts from QCSS and the presenters, I would consider this day very successful in influencing the teachers to use more Haida culture in their classrooms. In my opinion, this Pro-D day was exactly what the teachers needed. Being a Haida student I find that I would be more intrigued in a subject that used Haida myths and stories involved it would make me more interested in that subject. •
FOUR NEW MASKS which will be on permanent exhibit at the Haida Gwaii Museum were validated by being danced at the Athlìi Gwaii celebration. 1. Nang Kilslas, He whose voice is obeyed, carved by Guujaaw. 2. Kaalgì Jaad, Ice Woman, carved by Reg Davidson. 3. SGuuluu Jaad, Foam Woman, carved by Jim Hart. 4. Jiilaa Kuns, Creek Woman, carved by Robert Davidson. Photos: Jack Litrell.