



LIFE LEARNER
HONOURED
page 3



REPORT
FROM THE
JANUARY
QUARTERLY
page 5



INVASION
OF THE
MEN IN
RED
page 12

HAIDA LAAS

Newsletter of the Haida Nation

FEBRUARY 2011



Chief Matthews School Walking Club

Left to Right: Aritanna Bell, Douglas White, LJ Squires,
Myra Russ, Hailey Lavoie (in front), Janelle Edgars,
Jessica Collison, Cassie Collison, Sheldon Smith,
Tristan Squires, and Kendall Drager.

page 13



HAIDA LAAS

NEWS of the HAIDA NATION

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program reports : haida laas
links : diplomacy : agreements
government : working groups

- it's all good -

A Curious Crowd

Two rollicking Haida Laas Open Houses were held last month – one at the *Haida Rose Café* in Old Massett on January 27, and one at the Haida Laas office in Skidegate on January 28. Both Open Houses were filled with friendly, curious and enthusiastic guests and both events were an awful lot of fun. Through conversation and discussion, our guests not only provided us with additional insights to the needs and expectations of our communities in terms of CHN communications, but also asked great questions, and offered suggestions, ideas, and an array of perspectives, all of which will be taken into consideration by the Communications Committee over the next few months. The opinions provided by the Open House participants will help the Committee and staff to keep their noses to the grindstone in terms of building an ever-stronger and increasingly effective CHN Communications Program.

One of the ideas behind holding the Open Houses was to inform more people of what the CHN Communications Program is about, and the number of ways in which Haida Laas – one component of the Communications Program – presently communicates the work of the CHN and other news. In addition to publishing the newsletters and journals, Haida Laas maintains the Haida Nation website (haidanation.ca), sends out newsflashes, and provides information to Haida citizens through (e-mailed) list-serve notices.

The second reason for holding the Open Houses was to create an opportunity for people to tell us what they think and to ask questions. We will confirm right here and now that there were no shrinking violets at either one of the events!

Haawa to everyone who joined us at the Open Houses, and big congratulations to the winners of the door prizes: Reverend Lily Bell, Lucille Bell, Lindsay Galbraith, and Bernard Kerrigan on January 27, and Bea Harley, Pearle Pearson, and Betty Richardson (who won two of the draws!!) on January 28.

Special thanks to the Haida Gwaii Museum and Nathalie Macfarlane for two door-prize books; Lucille Bell and Ken Rea who provided a wonderful venue and delicious refreshments in Old Massett; and to Clay Engel, one of the Information Technology students presently working in the Haida Laas office, who provided the terrific refreshments for the Skidegate event. •

Pick Up a Haida Laas

Haida Laas is now available at four new outlets – **All Things Stationary**, **TLC Automotive** and **The Ground** in Massett, and in Prince Rupert, **Eddie's News** is the place to pick up news of the Haida Nation. A big haawa to the new outlets and to all of those who have been carrying Haida Laas for the past few years!

North Island Lodge Lease Decision

A decision has been reached regarding the North Island Lodge lease renewal at Beal Cove, Daadens. North Island Lodge, which asked for a thirty-year lease, received a three-year renewal. The renewal was approved by Len Munt, District Manager, Haida Gwaii Resource District. Documentation and conditions of the lease will be made public in the coming weeks. See *Old Massett correspondent Florence Lockyer's coverage of the lease-renewal public meeting* – page 10.

New Language App is for Learning

A new language App for the iPod Touch, iPad and iPhone is making First Nations' languages more accessible and easier to learn. An App is a small piece of computer software usually designed for a single purpose. And, the prototype App developed for the languages of the Sencoten and Halq'eméylem uses recordings archived on the FirstVoices.com website to deliver to your mobile device words and phrases with definitions, and enhanced with audio recordings, images and video. The interface can also be customized – for example, you can add your own photo of naaw, *octopus* to illustrate the word in your personal dictionary.

The Sencoten and Halq'eméylem are the first to launch the app with the primary audience being First Nations' youth and First Nations people living off-Reserve.

You can see a sample of the App at:

<http://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/id398943185?mt=8>

<http://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/halqemeylem/id398945845?mt=8>

SPEAK UP!

Refresh your Haida; check out the following phrases!

If you require help with pronunciation or want to further your knowledge, contact the language group in your village.

Are you thirsty?

SKG: Dang gwa kaat'uu?

OM: Dang gu kat'uu?

AK: Dáng gw kat'úu?

Yes, I am thirsty.

SKG: Aanga, dii kaat'uu ga.

OM: Aang, dii kat'uugang.

AK: Áang, dii kat'úugang.

Do you want something to drink?

SKG: Dang gwa gina nyalal guuda?

OM: Dang gu gin neelgaa ga gudang?

AK: Dáng gw gin néelgaa gã gudáng?



Photo: Ann Marie Husband

Life Learner Honoured

Kii'iluus, *Barb Wilson*, is standing with ten other alumni to be recognized for her achievements since graduating from the University of Victoria. The Alumni Legacy Award is presented by UVIC to people who have made exceptional achievements on a local, national or international scale.

Kii'iluus received her Diploma in Cultural Resource Management from UVIC in 1999 and has worked for Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site since 1989. Since 1996, she has been responsible for the instruction and curriculum of the Watchmen Program in Gwaii Haanas and is presently working on a resource book for the program. In addition, Kii'iluus has just been appointed Chair of the Second International Conference on Indigenous Place Names, which will be held on Haida Gwaii in 2013.

Through her writing and photography Kii'iluus works with people to heal from past traumas by reawakening and regaining knowledge of themselves and our life-way. •

All-Native Basketball Tournament 2011

Hydaburg takes Men's B-Ball Senior Division

If you didn't notice that the 2011 All-Native Basketball Tournament was in full swing this past couple of weeks then you must not be living on Haida Gwaii, or, for that matter in the North. The communities of Skidegate and Old Massett resembled quiet seaside villages, unlike the usual hustle and bustle, as fans and players flocked to Prince Rupert braving the "Vomit Comet" and wild waters of Hecate Strait.

Island teams fared well with many wins, and individuals were honoured with awards and slots on the All-Star teams. Massett Raiders brought home a fourth place finish in the Men's Senior Division and Hydaburg topped that battle winning the Division trophy with a six-point win over Ahousaht. Congratulations, Hydaburg!

FINAL SCORES

- **Senior Division: Hydaburg 98 – Ahousaht 92**
- Intermediate Division: Kitamaat 76 – Friendship House 63
- Women's Division: Kitamaat 63 – North Pacific Rain 59
- Masters Division: Bella Bella 71 – Prince Rupert 63

AWARDS AND ALL-STARS

Senior Division

- Most Sportsmanlike Team: Ahousaht
- Best Defensive Player: Luke Robinson (Ahousaht)
- Sixth Man Award: Greg Charlie (Ahousaht)
- Most Inspirational: Luke Robinson (Ahousaht)
- **Mr. Hustle: Vinny Edenshaw (Hydaburg)**
- **High scorer: Chris Campbell (Masset)**
- **All-Star Team: George Peratovich (Hydaburg), Vinny Edenshaw (Hydaburg),** Waylon Swan (Ahousaht), Devin Robinson (Ahousaht), Shawn Gladstone (Bella Bella), Clint Germyn (Bella Bella), **Chris Campbell (Masset), Tyler York (Masset)** Nate Kirk (North Shore), **Duane Alsop (Skidegate)**
- **MVP: Devin Edenshaw (Hydaburg)**

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

- Most Sportsmanlike Team: Lax Kw'alaams
- Most Promising Player: Graylon Martin (North Shore)
- Top Defensive Player: Quinton Nyce (Kitamaat)
- Sixth Man Award: Kyle Amos (Kitamaat)
- Mr. Hustle: Darren Metz (Kitamaat)
- Most Inspirational: Bertram McKay (Friendship House)
- **High Scorer: Matt Gladstone (Skidegate)**
- All-Star team: Adrian Robinson (Friendship House), Glenn Blandov Jr. (Friendship House), Darren Metz (Kitamaat), Quentin Nyce (Kitamaat), Graylon Martin (North Shore), Desmond Pack (North Shore), Jamie Ross (Vancouver), William

CATCH UP ON THE LATEST ENBRIDGE DEVELOPMENTS AT HAIDANATION.CA.



Photo: Mike Ambach

Edwards (Vancouver), **Matt Gladstone (Skidegate), Cole Edinger (Skidegate)**
 • MVP: Daniel Metz (Kitamaat)

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- Most Sportsmanlike Team: Nanaimo
- Top Defensive Player: Mariah Tait (Gitwinksihlkw)
- Most Promising Player: Latasha Brlecic (Metlakatla Crest)
- Sixth Man Award: Jenny Nyce (Kitamaat)
- Most Inspirational: Katelynn Alexander (North Pacific Rain)
- Miss Hustle: Adelia Paul (Kitamaat)
- High-scorer: Judy Carlick (Metlakatla Crest)
- All-Star team: Kristen Helin (Rain), Trish Helin (Rain), Miranda Ross (Kitamaat), Kaitlynn Stewart (Kitamaat), Samantha Azak (Gitwinksihlkw), Mariah Tait (Gitwinksihlkw), Denise Wilson (Metlakatla), Judy Carlick (Metlakatla), Shayla Schooner (Bella Bella), Britney Williams (Nanaimo)
- MVP: Adelia Paul (Kitamaat)

MASTERS DIVISION

- Most Sportsmanlike Team: Hartley Bay
- Top Defensive Player: Mike Reid (Bella Bella)
- Sixth Man: Glenn Blandov (Prince Rupert)
- Most Inspirational: Brody Johnston (Prince Rupert)
- Mr. Hustle: Brody Johnston (Prince Rupert)
- High-scorer: Will Sheppard (Prince Rupert)
- All-Star team: Will Sheppard (Prince Rupert), Jim Andreff (Prince Rupert), Cliff Starr (Bella Bella), Mike Reid (Bella Bella), George Robinson (New Aiyansh), Kevin Nisyok (New Aiyansh), **Willis Parnell (Masset), David Hill (Masset),** Wes Nyce (Kitamaat), David Griffin Jr. (Gitwinksihlkw)
- MVP: Mitchell Martin (Bella Bella)

Keeping Up To Date

News from the January Quarterly Meeting

President's Report

For many years the interests of our people have not been of concern to the colonial government, nor did they seem to concern industry or the settlers. Over the last few years, however, we have had our effect on Canadian laws, politics and investments to the point where we can no longer be sidelined.

Through the efforts of our people we have moved from being ignored, to being an "interest", and from an "interest", we were to be "consulted", and then "accommodated." Today we are determining what will happen on our lands and quickly becoming a factor in the island economy.

In the face of a heavily entrenched forest industry, we brought forward a highly principled land-use plan. Our plan contends that it is possible to have an economy while taking care of the environment and our culture.

After fighting for thirty years to protect cedar, wildlife, fish streams and special areas of Haida Gwaii, we have turned our attention to managing those lands. Everything that our people wanted to protect is secured.



HALTING THE HUNT

CHN has all but closed the deal to buy the Tlell River House and the associated bear hunting licences. Guided trophy-hunting will no longer happen on Haida Gwaii – in fact, that practice was halted in the fall of 2009 when serious negotiations for the purchase of the lodge and licence began. The Haida Nation will be the new owner of the lodge, with the asset being held by *Haida Enterprise Corporation (HaiCo)*. The plan is to have the lodge operating this coming spring. •

After fighting the forest industry we now control the biggest forest company on Haida Gwaii and it is up to us to show that it isn't necessary to spoil the land to make a living. Where there will be logging, our people will be on the ground determining *how much* logging and how it can be done with consideration for the birds and the bees, the bears, the rivers, medicines and our culture.

Indeed, we have seen our share of conflict, and our engagement in that conflict required considerable sacrifice and commitment from our people. We made our stands, we went to their courts and gathered our alliances as we set out to determine the fate of our land and culture. It is possible to live in peace and prosperity and take advantage of the coming opportunities, not only jobs and careers, but as the true caretakers and governors of Haida Gwaii.

We now find ourselves with a considerable challenge on our hands. We require people to fill positions in management and administration. We will also need watchmen, loggers, scientists, contractors, machine operators and all the other trades and professions necessary for our society to thrive. Where in the past, people left home for a better life, the conditions are now here for a better life on Haida Gwaii. It has been a battle, but along the way but we have also gained a lot of friends and allies that were essential to get this far.

But as it would be, we still have a fight on our hands. The federal crown has been less than a passive bystander. In the processes the crown has been involved in, up and down the coast, they have been a stick in the mud: there has been little progress in the marine area. As well, we see the oil barons quite willing to put the coast in harm's way; the Enbridge proposal is about billions of dollars a year, the kind of project that greases a lot of palms. A big deal for sure and the stakes are high, but we can truly say that what we have is worth more than what they want.

Keeping Up To Date

Vice-president's Report

Vice-president April Churchill's report touched on many subjects and areas being worked on by the Haida Nation. Following are a few of them; a copy of the report submitted to the Quarterly can be found at either CHN office.

In the last quarter of CHN business, the Haida Reconciliation of Title Team worked on moving forward title and rights over the Haida Nation's territorial seas, the implementation of the Kunst'aa Guu/Kust'aay.ah Agreement, the Haida Independence Project, and followed through on 2010 House of Assembly directives. Executive activities also included approving expert witnesses for the title case, in the areas of language and arts.

COHEN COMMISSION

The commission was struck by the government of Canada to conduct an inquiry into the decline of sockeye in the Fraser River. CHN President, Guujaaw, travelled to Vancouver and gave evidence which will be used in the development of a paper called, *Aboriginal Worldview, Cultural Context and Traditional Knowledge*. The paper will inform the Commission in their deliberations. During the giving of evidence, Guujaaw also brought to the attention of the Commission that DFO has notified First

Nations that DFO will not negotiate any species of fish until the Commission comes to a decision. He pointed out that this process may take a couple of years to complete and that DFO's position ignores their own court-ordered responsibility to consult and accommodate First Nations.

THE HAIDA INDEPENDENCE PROJECT

CHN shall strive for the full independence, sovereignty, and self-sufficiency of the Haida Nation. Article 8 of the Constitution of the Haida Nation outlines the mandate and responsibilities of the CHN. The above-noted clause, which includes the words "independence", "sovereignty" and "self-sufficiency," is what initiated the idea for the Independence Project and the forming of HaiCo.

To be independent is to be free from outside control, or put another way: you are not depending on another's authority. The Independence Project is one vehicle by which the Haida Nation will move forward to gain not only political autonomy but also financial independence. HaiCo is beginning that process by developing Haida businesses, with profits from those businesses going towards supporting initiatives and projects deemed necessary

Keeping Up To Date

by Haida citizens. For example, in the woods, Taan Forest is managing forest tenure recently acquired by the Haida Nation. These are early days and more than fifty Island people are already working in the woods.

HaiCo is also working on projects such as the purchase of the Tlell River Lodge and bear-hunting licences, and the development of a shellfish industry. The purchase of the lodge and hunting licenses is nearing completion and once done there will no longer be any recreational trophy-hunting on Haida Gwaii. But, since serious negotiation began last fall there has not been any hunting on either of the licences. The projects being run by HaiCo and its associated businesses are required to uphold the Haida Nation priorities of stewardship, and cultural and social values in their business practices.

ENERGY

The Energy Committee is working with the National Research Council on the Haida Gwaii Renewable Energy Project. The National Research Council is Canada's premier organization for research and development and has been active since 1916.

Over the past couple of years, the CHN and BC Hydro have been exploring renewable energy options for the Islands. This project combined with NRC's research will identify areas where renewable energy can be used, and will contribute to a plan for building a green economy. The study will look at methods for producing and using sustainable electricity systems; measures that will enhance existing systems; improved education about clean energy; and examine options for developing approaches for sustainable transportation, and energy for heating.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Implementing the Kunst'aa Guu/Kust'aay.ah Agreement (K&K Agreement) is a big job. Part of the agreement is the implementation of ecosystem-based management in the forests. The new management system will be fully enforceable in June, 2011. The rules were signed-off by the CHN and provincial government and a six-month grace period gives companies time to re-tool before they fall under the new system. However, through work at



HAICO CHAIR APPOINTED

Dr. Rosylin Kunin has been appointed as the interim Chair of Haida Enterprise Corporation (HaiCo). Ms Kunin has worked with the Tsawwassen and Westbank First Nations developing human resource capacity to implement their local economic development plans. One of Ms Kunin's many specialties is the ability to take complex ideas and make them relevant and understandable.

Dr. Kunin has been a director of the Business Development Bank of Canada, Chair of the Workers Compensation Board of British Columbia, and member of the National Council of Statistics. She has also served as Chair of the Vancouver Stock Exchange, Governor of the University of British Columbia and has served the Vancouver community as Chair of the Vancouver Crisis Centre, and as Vice-president of the YWCA.

In her career, Dr. Kunin has worked in the private sector, taught at several Canadian universities (including Simon Fraser and UBC) and served twenty years as Regional Economist for the federal government in BC and the Yukon. Ms Kunin has received many community awards, including the Order of Canada.

the Interim Solutions Table, the provincial staff, the CHN Heritage and Natural Resource Committee, and licensees, including Taan Forest, have already begun implementing these orders.

Another change that has occurred with the signing of the agreement is the way the Allowable Annual Cut is decided. The Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) is the calculation that determines how much wood is to be cut each year. For the past fifty years the provincial government has been making that decision. That has changed and the Solutions Table will now make the decision. The table, which is made up of representatives of the Haida and provincial govern-

REPORTING - continued next page

HaiCo's New Board Rolling

The new HaiCo board is rolling and has met twice since being formed in late 2010. The first meeting was by teleconference, December 6, where board members were introduced to each other, and Acting Managing Director, Thomas Olsen reported on HaiCo activities to date. In his presentation he described the business lines that HaiCo is developing, the most active being Taan Forest, which is now in the process of letting forestry contracts and finalizing the acquisition of TFL 60. HaiCo also has business plans for tourism and aquaculture.

The board's first face-to-face meeting took place in Vancouver, January 26, and was attended by directors Reg Davidson, Pat McGuire, Roslyn Kunin, Kelly Russ, Bill Dumont and Thomas Ol-

sen. At the all-day meeting directors reviewed the aquaculture, forestry, and tourism files and elected Roslyn Kunin as the Chair for the coming year. Dates of upcoming board meetings were confirmed for April and July, with the Annual General Meeting to be held in October, coinciding with the Haida Nation's House of Assembly.

In this phase of board start-up there are many priorities, and among the top three are to hire management and staff, and begin work on the strategic and communication plans. This past November, HaiCo's interim staff met with the Skidegate and Old Massett village councils and talked about strategic priorities, this was the first of several meetings planned over the next few months. •

Keeping Up To Date

REPORTING - from page 7

ments, should be in place this coming March and one of its first tasks will be to determine the new AAC. •

NaiKun

In the interest of providing good information to citizens regarding the proposed NaiKun Wind Energy project, the CHN has contracted Dr. Tom Gunton of Simon Fraser University to study the wind project and provide an independent and impartial review to the CHN.

Gunton has been asked to assess risks and benefits of the project; identify opportunities and costs based on the CHN business plan's investment principles; and make recommendations for mitigating risk and maximizing benefit.

Dr. Gunton is professor of Resource and Environmental Planning at Simon Fraser University and is Chair of the Offshore Oil and Gas Research Group, which provides advice on impacts of oil and gas development to First Nations.

The report will be available to citizens prior to the general vote mandated by the 2009 House of Assembly (Resolution R4. Partnership with the NaiKun Wind Energy Group Inc.). The resolution reads:

R4. Partnership with the NaiKun Wind Energy Group Inc.

WHEREAS the Haida people must have a say in the decision regarding the NaiKun project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Haida Nation hold a general vote after the completion of an environmental assessment regarding whether or not to enter into a business partnership with NaiKun Wind Energy Group Inc.;

DID YOU KNOW?



The Blue whale can produce the loudest sound of any mammal. At 188 decibels, the noise can be detected over 800 kilometres away. Normal human conversation is about 80 decibels but decibels are measure in a way so that a 10 decibel increase in sound multiplies the previous level by 10.

Be it further resolved that the CHN present the details of the business arrangement to the Haida people at public meetings in Massett, Skidegate, Prince Rupert, and Vancouver before the vote.

Communal Commercial Licences

The Secretariat of the Haida Nation has put a proposal to the Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) requesting two more halibut licences with quota, a sablefish licence with quota, and another crab licence. PICFI is a fisheries reform program funded by the federal government over 5 years. One aspect of the initiative is to acquire boats and licences through voluntary retirement of existing commercial licences or quota, and, in turn, support an increased participation by First Nations.

Fishing Licence Update

SHN administers the fishing licences obtained by CHN through the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy allocation-transfer program. The SHN Fisheries Committee reviews applications from the public and makes recommendations, to the SHN board of directors, regarding allocation of licences and quota. Allocations for the 2010 season were:

- Diane Daschuk – crab/salmon gillnet
- Wilson Brown – crab
- Denise Assu – herring gillnet lease x 2
- Denise Assu – herring seine
- Tied up for the season – spawn-on-kelp
- Tied up for the season – salmon seine
- Bruce Stewart-Burton – halibut IVQ (45,259 lbs)
- Willie Davies – Halibut L tab and IVQ (32,289 lbs)
- Stephanie Watkins – halibut IVQ (20,000 lbs)
- Dave Martynuik Jr. – halibut L tab and IVQ (32,000 lbs)
- Ron Casey/Kay Stewart – salmon gillnet
- LaVerne Davies – salmon troll
- James Young Jr. – salmon troll
- Willie Davies – salmon troll
- Francis Ingram – salmon troll
- Andrew Tait – salmon troll
- Not Leased – Red sea urchin

The initial allocation of halibut quota in 2010 was 20,000 lbs to each boat, with 13,000 lbs held back as an incentive to encourage the timely completion of the allocated quota. The hold-back was awarded to Bruce Stewart-Burton who fished his allocation first.

News and Updates from the Vancouver Region

Doings, Travel & Education

by Sandra Greene

The Museum of Anthropology at UBC had a big opening for the show *Signed Without a Signature: Works by Charles and Isabella Edenshaw*. Prior to the opening, MOA invited all of the Edenshaw descendants for a private viewing of the exhibit, which was opened to the public the following day. The show runs until September 30, 2011. It is wonderful to see our people out for these cultural events.

At the Remembrance Day events, Jim Edenshaw represented our Nation, carrying our flag.

This past December Haida language and storytelling classes began in our region. The classes have been held weekly and we have a good group that comes out to learn more about what it means to be Haida. We are very lucky to have Woodrow Morrison sharing his knowledge and stories with us. Haawa to Woody.

DID YOU KNOW?



The longest known trip ever taken by a salmon was that of a Chinook salmon which traveled 3,845 km upstream to spawn.

Samantha Rullin (Tamara Rullin and Allan Davidson's daughter) is travelling to New Zealand during the school spring-break as a member of Carson Graham Senior Girl's Rugby Team, last year's provincial champions. The team will be playing six games down-under while touring around. Samantha graduates this June and is planning on studying history at Capilano University. Good going Samantha!

At our December, Vancouver Regional meeting, Haida citizens were given \$25 gift certificates for Safeway.

Many babies were born this season: Shawn Edenshaw and Chelsea had a daughter they named Evelyn, and Derek Edenshaw and Jeana had a daughter, Neekwan Leifa, on November 11.

The Vancouver Region participated in the 10th International Haida Language Gathering which took place February 5 and 6 in Vancouver. I will be doing a write-up on the gathering in a future issue of Haida Laas.

The CHN Vancouver Regional Council will be hosting the Urban Haida Feast on March 26th in the gym at the Vancouver Friendship Centre. There will also be a Haida

Market in the Simon Baker room (tables available) from 12:00 - 5:00 pm. At this event, the Vancouver Language Program will be having a Loonie-Toonie auction for fund-raising (any donations are very welcome!)

Patrika McIvov would like the following information included for any people interested in working in health care: The Native Education College is offering a Health Care Assistant Program beginning in March. There is no tuition fee for this class. If you are interested in this seven-month program, contact NEC immediately. I graduate from this program in May.

In other education news, an Addictions Counseling Program will be offered at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, with free tuition. I believe the next intake for this first-year program is September. I will be graduating from this program, with my certification to be a Chemical Addictions Worker, in June. More information about the course is can be found at the Nicola Valley Institute website <<http://www.nvit.ca/default.htm>>. A reminder: If any Vancouver Haidas have anything to put in our report, please let me know. *Regards from Vancouver, CHN Vancouver Rep., Sandra Greene*

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Lodge Lease Meeting in Old Massett

Catch and Re-lease?

by Florence Lockyer

On Tuesday 25 January 2011, a public meeting was held in Old Massett to discuss the application by West Coast Fishing Club (North Island Camp) to renew their lease at Beal Cove, on Kiids gwaay. yaay (North Island) adjacent to Daadens. The meeting was hosted by the CHN/BC Interim Solutions Table, which was represented at the meeting by Colin Richardson, Tyler Peet and Mark Salzl.

For the past twenty-two years North Island Lodge has held a lease that allows them to anchor at Beal Cove, and, from that base, conduct recreational fishing charters. The lodge is one of four properties owned by the West Coast Fishing Club on Haida Gwaii. There are three more lodges on land: one at North Island, another twenty-six miles south along the west coast, and one at North Beach. The lodge

at Beal Cove accommodates up to twenty-four people.

The lease, which expired in November 2009, is under review by the CHN and the provincial government, and the public meeting in Old Massett was part of a process to gauge public sentiment regarding the location and length of lease, and to collect cultural information for consideration in the decision-making process.

The province has a legal obligation to consult and accommodate the Haida Nation, and, once this review has been completed, the information collected will be forwarded to Minister of Natural Resource Operations' District Manager, Len Munt, for a decision.

The evening saw nearly 50 com-

Lease Update

Between the writing of this story and publishing, a decision was reached regarding the North Island Lodge lease renewal at Beal Cove, Daadens. North Island Lodge requested a 30-year lease renewal but instead received a three-year renewal. The renewal was approved by Len Munt, District Manager, Haida Gwaii Resource District. Documentation and conditions of the lease will be made public in the coming weeks.

munity members pack the Elder's building – it was noted by Chinni Claude Jones that it was one of the best-attended pub-

Catch - continued next page

Catch - from page 10

lic meetings held in the centre. Rick Grange, representing North Island Lodge, was in attendance and his application, which is asking for a renewal of 30 years, said that he would be happy to receive a 10-year lease with a sunset clause, as the barge is aging and the company does not want to replace it. Tyler Peet, who sits at the Interim Solutions Table, said that the lease could be renewed from anywhere between zero and thirty years.

Discussion at the meeting was wide-ranging. The CHN had previously tabled concerns about the renewal, pointing out that the lodge location interferes with Haida use of the upland portion of the village site and that there are other cultural concerns in the vicinity, which have been itemized. They had also requested that the barge move from its present location to Henslung Cove. At the Old Massett meeting Rick Grange said that the company's shareholders did not think moving the barge was a safe option. Henslung Cove is already a very busy place, he said, and added that it was not that he was unwilling to move, but the cost to do so could be somewhere between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Citizens had many questions and opinions about the lodges' operations – their hiring and training policies, pollution control, the amount of salmon taken by lodges, catch and release, etc. There was also acknowledgement that the community does benefit from some of the lodge activities. •

Haida Fisheries Program



HFP Dive Team member, Robert Russ.

Field Season Begins

by Brad Setso

The 2011 field season is upon us with the first project scheduled to begin in mid-March. I look forward to the challenge of being the HFP Program Manager for my first full season.

The commercial razor clam season is tentatively set to begin on Wednesday, March 16 but the start date may be revised if the 2011 Razor Clam Agreement is not signed off by that day. A crew will also begin the data collection, needed to calculate the clam population, which in turn is used to calculate the total allowable catch for the 2012 season.

This is 13th consecutive season that HFP has bid and won the herring-spawn dive charter. The dive charter team will be led by skipper, George Wesley, and biologist/dive supervisor Sharon Jeffery. The team will also include Haida divers, Robert Russ, Ben Penna, and Shane Collinson. Steve Wesley will serve as engi-

neer and Alvin Hans will be the cook. The charter is for twenty-one days over a six-week period, but may be extended depending on the amount of herring spawn.

HFP is still in the process of developing a food-fish policy and plans to implement it in the upcoming fishing season. Staff and the Fisheries Committee will be meeting in the near future to identify and address numerous issues surrounding this policy. Once a draft is complete, HFP staff will review it with Haida citizens and compile their ideas and opinions about it. If you would like to be interviewed please contact either of the HFP offices, located in Massett (626-3302) or Skidegate (559-8945).

Any Haida citizens planning on food fishing this season please obtain your right-to-access (food-fish) cards from either office. Tide tables are also available at both offices. •



Daadens – then and now: The activity at Daadens was significantly different in 1957 than it is today. The 1957 photo shows numerous houses along the shore and many boats anchored in the cove. That activity is in stark contrast to the use in the 2007 photo. •

Being Safe on the Water

Invasion of the Men in Red!

by Florence Lockyer

If you want to captain a fishing boat these days, then you must be certified.

In 2007, Transport Canada announced that by 2010, a Fish Master IV Limited/Unlimited Certificate was necessary to captain a vessel over 60 tons – the Haida Provider is a 60-ton vessel. In the late winter of 2009, Marcus Griffin from Prince Rupert had the idea to host a Certificate of Service training course for Islanders as our fishers need to hold the appropriate certification.

There was much excitement from local fishers and others who were interested in obtaining the certification. The course takes from three weeks to a month to deliver, and, for active fishermen, finding that time was a challenge. But, finally a date was set and students began signing up.

The majority of the applicants received some funding from Skeena Native Development Society for the almost \$3,000-per-student tuition. After being rescheduled a couple of times, the Certificate of Service course – the first step to Fish Master IV certification – finally happened in November 2010 with the assistance of the Maritime Education Associates from Ladysmith on Vancouver Island.

A group of a dozen fishers joined forces to begin the training. With a big learning curve in front of

Safety - continued next page



Photos: Florence Lockyer



Future Captains practice water safety in bright red survival suits.

CATCH UP ON THE LATEST ENBRIDGE DEVELOPMENTS AT HAIDANATION.CA.

Safety - from page 12

them, they all set out with open minds, confident that their years of experience would be an asset in their study. For three weeks, day in and day out, the fishers worked, gaining practical experience and theory, which included the reading, making and plotting of marine charts. The course package also included Marine Emergency Duties A1, Restricted Operator Certificate – Marine Commercial and Maritime First Aid. Some of the twelve students did not complete all the requirement to be fully certified but all of them did complete the training. With that under their belts it put them in good stead for another run at certification. And, to that end, the Haida Fisheries Program is sponsoring a Fishing Master IV course. A call-out for expressions of interest took place last month for interested Haida citizens – and Haida Fisheries is still looking for people interested in the course. Fishing Master IV certification allows the holder to act as *Master* on board a fishing vessel of not more than 100 gross tonnage engaged on a near coastal waters voyage and as *Officer* in charge of the watch of a fishing vessel of any tonnage, engaged in near coastal and sheltered waters voyage.

Please call Haida Fisheries and speak with Program Manager, Brad Setso or Vanessa Bellis, 250.626.3302, to get more information, or sign up now – there are a limited number of seats available for the course.

NOTE: If you've had this type of training before, please have your previous training information handy. •

Health and Education

Walking Around the World!

by Florence Lockyer

Schools are the heart of every community and Chief Matthews School has been the heart of Old Massett since 1995. One of the visions the school has for supporting student achievement is to encourage students to be healthy. To that end, students have access to a breakfast program offered by the Haida Health Centre.

A healthy breakfast is prepared by the Old Massett Culinary Arts Program and served at the Community Hall for all Old Massett students. This is a good and hearty way to start a day full of adventure and learning. Another initiative is exercise. After greeting the children, teachers, support staff and all students (nursery to grade four) take a daily walk, or run, around the school's perimeter, twice. They can usually be seen doing this around 9 am. The nursery goes around only once, but the walk is the mandatory for all students.

In addition, Chief Matthews School has a Walking Club. Myra Russ, herself an avid walker, is the coordinating staff member. The Walking Club began in April 2008 under the auspices of Colleen Williams, and today Myra has student assistants to help her out and keep students in line. The assistants are LJ, Devon, Sheldon, Jessica (training), Janelle, and Aritanna. According to Janelle, who is in Grade 2, students are part of the Walking Club so that they can get exercise. They walk down the hill from the school to where the fire trucks are parked by the Fire

Hall. Then they walk to her Tsini's house and back up the hill to the school. And, she says, "It's always fun!"

The Walking Club's goal is to walk around the world! Guess how far they have gone? 12,000 kilometres! That takes them to London, England! Can you imagine walking that far ... or to town, or even around town? Students and staff at Chief Matthews School definitely go that extra mile – well, actually that extra kilometre!

Way to go Chief Matthews School students and Ms Myra for keeping the momentum going – rain or shine! •

For Your Information

Potlatches & Other Haida Cultural Events

Haida Laas will accept articles documenting a potlatch or other Haida cultural events submitted for publication from the hosting clan. The length of the article and number of photos being submitted will be at the discretion of the editor and worked out with the authors ahead of the submission deadline.

Submissions may be edited for length and clarity but will not be edited for content. If Submissions are edited, the editor will contact the author(s) for final approval of the edited text. Each article submitted for publication will have authorship clearly identified (submitted by _____) and will carry the following notice.

Please note: The opinion and clan knowledge expressed in this article is that of the Clan and printed as submitted by the clan.

Taan Forest

Working for Ourselves

Wood salvage operations are underway in TFL 60 and in the Haida Tenure, with eleven contracts being awarded to six local outfits. The contracts, let by Taan Forest, are the first such offering since a management agreement on TFL 60 was signed between Taan Forest and Western Forest Products.

Taan Forest has been working to design a contract system that will meet local needs and put people back to work. Bob Brash, President of Taan Forest, said that in the past contractors applied for salvage areas and their applications were reviewed using criteria, which were not always clear or understood by the contractor. That method had problems with

consistency and perceived-favouritism. The new system addresses some of these issues and also awards specific areas for contractors to work in. As part of the letting process these areas are identified by Taan Forest as financially viable.

The designated salvage areas have been designed to meet the needs of local businesses and the hope is that businesses will be able to plan better and in doing so provide more stability for workers and communities. It is expected that the contract volumes will keep the contractors working for two to three years.

“These changes to the way we let contracts is in the interest of encouraging a stable salvage community with longer term jobs,” said Brash, “but also, it is to do a better job of salvaging products from the woods.”

The successful proposals had been reviewed by Taan Forest which looked at the companies’ experience, job creation plans, their value-added manufacturing objectives and bonus bids. In deciding the final six, Taan Forest also looked at how best to distribute the contracts across all of the Island communities.

“These small changes in the way business is done puts the forest industry’s focus back on community and reinvigorating the local economy,” said Brash.

The successful bidders were:

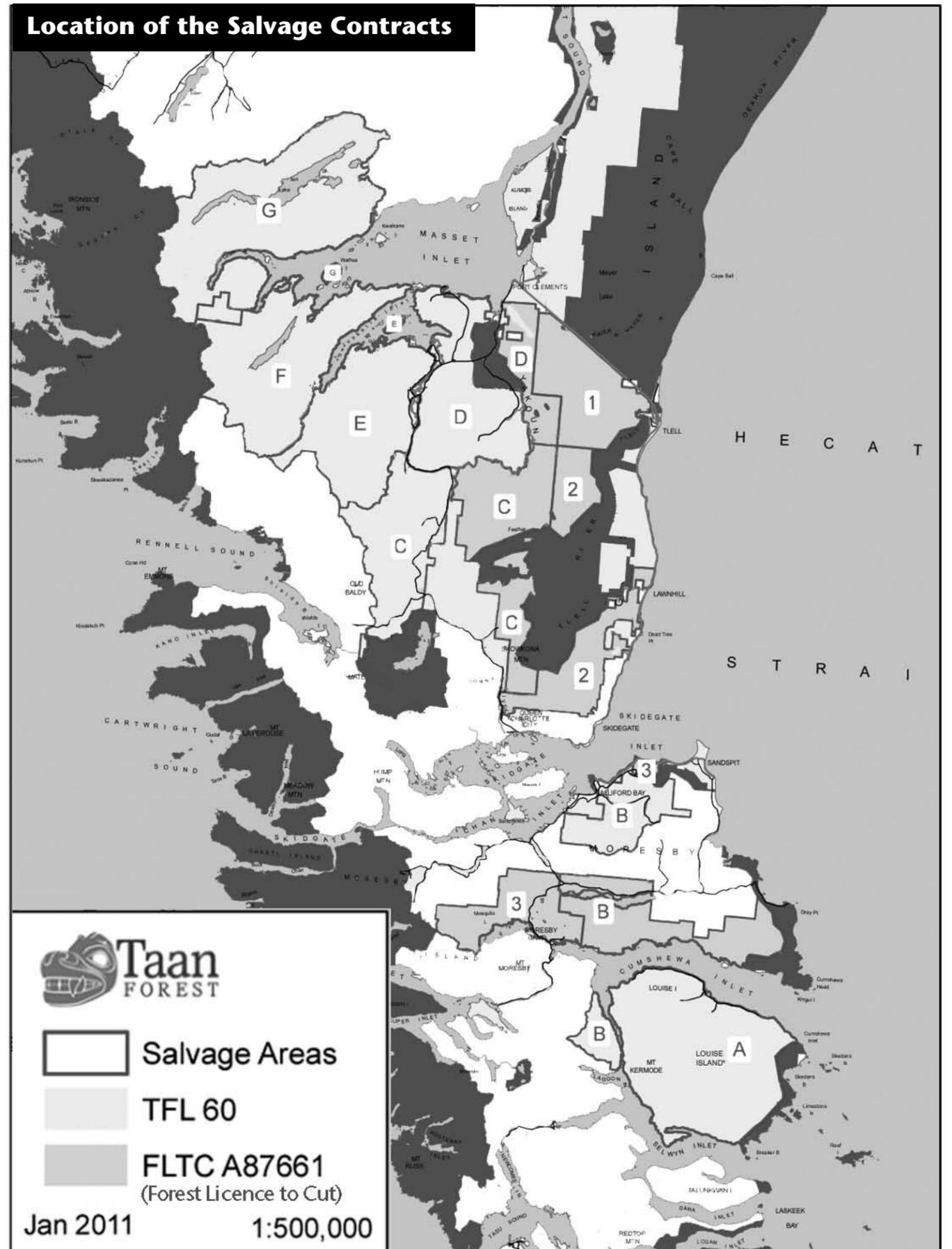
- **Hoya Creek**
Unit 1 (Northern Section, Tlell-Port) and Unit 2
- **Maurice Contracting**
Unit B (South Section) and Unit 3 (Sandspit)
- **Maximum Cedar Recovery**
Unit G
- **Silva Services**
Unit A and Unit B (North Section)
- **Skokum Shakers**
Unit C and Unit E
- **Watchmen**
Unit D and Unit F

See map on facing page, for locations of the contracts.

Seeking Certification
Taan Forest is seeking Forest Management Certification from the Forest Stewardship Council for operations within TFL 60 and British Columbia Timber Sales. The first step in receiving this stamp of approval is a pre-assessment, which will identify gaps between the practices of Taan Forest, BCTS and the FSC standard. The pre-assessment will be conducted by the Rainforest Alliance’s Smart Wood program.

FSC is a program which sets standards that assess and monitor the logging, production and distribution of products based on principles that address the social, economic, cultural and spiritual needs of present and future generations. The FSC program is considered by many environmental organizations to be the gold standard for certification of sustainable forest operations.

The assessment team will be on-Island March 23-25, to interview Taan Forest and BCTS staff and other interested parties. As part of the process, individuals and groups interested in commenting on Taan Forest and BCTS’ management of the forest are invited to contact lead auditor Krista West at kwest@ra.org or 250.871.6598 – sources of information will be kept confidential. A final report will be presented by mid-April. •





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