



WELCOME
ALFRED
DAVIDSON IV
pg 5



CATCHING UP
WITH SHAWN
EDENSHAW
pg 6



THANKS BUT
NO TANKS
EXHIBITION
COVERAGE
pg 14

HAIDA LAAS

Newsletter of the Council of the Haida Nation

September 2013

T'aalan Stl'ang wraps
for the summer

- page 9



Six Rediscovery youth in front of the Triple Mortuary Pole at Kiusta:
(l-r) Tyson Young, Devon Boyko, Freeman Bell, Kaden Yaroshuk, Sarah Edenshaw and Camillia Brennan.

Special Legacy-Pole Raising supplement inside.



HAIDA LAAS

NEWSLETTER of the COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION
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Time to engage

A message from the President of the Haida Nation

What an amazing summer we've had on Haida Gwaii! It's hard to say goodbye to the long summer days but we must. The *Council of the Haida Nation* is now gearing up for a busy autumn season, beginning with the Summer Session reporting-out, taking place this week September 12th and 13th in Old Massett. This is your opportunity to engage with your elected representatives and become informed. Our nation is stronger when we have informed and engaged citizens.

Communication has evolved tremendously over the past decade and it now time that the Haida Nation follows suit. *Haida Laas* is a great resource and is continually providing well researched and objective articles to ensure that all readers are informed and have an opportunity to form their own opinions on the issues of the day. We welcome Patrick Shannon to the team, who was a dynamic part of the Haida Gwaii Youth Assembly this past May. He is a talented young Haida who will definitely help the nation make the move into social media and take our communications to another level.

Providing opportunities for our young and talented Haida's is one of our top priorities and we are pleased to have Patrick home and working for the nation.

We leave this summer season with fresh memories of the Legacy Pole raising, summer days spent with family and friends, and of course, the exciting visit from the Vancouver Canucks. I wish all our students a productive and exciting school year and look forward to seeing all of you in our annual visits to the schools later this fall.

Haaw'a, Kil tlaats'gaa

CHN Marine Harvest Policy meetings Coming up in Old Massett and Skidegate

[Check the back cover for times and place.]



CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE ETHNOLOGY OF
THE HAIDA

< >

JOHN R. SWANTON

A Defining Contribution

Containing information found nowhere else, Swanton's contribution is a resource that informs and provokes debate about Haida culture. Originally published in 1905, the *Council of the Haida Nation* reprinted the text in 2004 with a new introduction and acknowledgement of Haida contributors and translators in the first edition. This 300-page clothbound book is a fine gift that will endure many years of study. The proceeds from sales support the work of the *Council of the Haida Nation* and the books are available at the CHN office, Skidegate – \$100⁰⁰



Swan Bay Rediscovery is a beneficiary of the Paul Bentley Memorial Fishing Tournament. This crew, just back from Swan Bay, are: Taimen Lee-Vigneault, Anni Koenig, Mirella Nicoll, Salal Ewasiuk, Tyra Parker, Randy Pryce, Trey Rorick, Dana Moraes, Daylyn Brown, Rachel Singleton-Polster, Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas.

Big Fish, Big Prizes

The fifth annual Paul Bentley Memorial Fishing Tournament was a big success even if it were measured only by the amount of action and chatter at the weigh-in on the Queen Charlotte dock. But, add to that, the 111 rods put into the water, at \$100 each, plus the number of fish caught and later processed and preserved, and you have a well-rounded community event with many people benefitting. One big beneficiary was the Swan Bay Rediscovery camp: the tournament raised \$2,500 for the camp, surpassing the organizers' goal of \$2000.

Michael Gladstone of Skidegate, who hauled in a 30.5-pounds Tye, took home the top tournament-prize of \$1500, an engraved Islander reel and a Norm Bentley ring; Monty Cobbs of Sandspit took second place, winning \$500; and the third place prize of \$250 was

awarded to Geoffrey Martynuik of Queen Charlotte. The hidden-weight prize, snagged by Travis O'Brien of Port Clements, more than likely contributed to many 'if only' stories throughout the evening.

The top ladies' combination prize – a carved ring by Norm Bentley, a pair of Haida-design gumboots, a garden ornament and Sensi pack – went to Melissa Edgars of Skidegate. And, the children's prize of a rod and reel was won by Liam Pollard of Skidegate.

Planning ahead, Randy Pryce said organizers have put away enough funds from this year's event to kick-start next year's, without having to rely on donations. The team that put together the full day of fishing included Sarah Pryce, Richard Aiken, Tanu Lusignan, Norm Bentley, Christine Bentley, Bobby Edenshaw and Randy Pryce. •

Getting to know the field

Submitted by Sara Bennett-Richardson

I am Sara Bennett-Richardson from the Yaahl Laanas clan. My parents are Cheryl Bennett and Jim Richardson, my naanii is Leslie Bennett and my tsiinii is Sonny Bennett.

In May of this year, I attended the Haida Gwaii Youth Assembly held in Old Massett, which was a great experience for me as I learned about the types of jobs available

on Haida Gwaii. The assembly also showed us how to work together and I joined Team Forestry because I am interested in all aspects of the work.

This summer I was hired as a summer student at the Council of the Haida Nation's Heritage and Natural Resource Department, for six weeks. I enjoyed the opportunity to experience all aspects of the jobs in the department. I worked with the stewardship and archaeology programs in the office and field; and learned about natural resource applications



CHN's new biologist and dive supervisor, Aggie Cangardle.

Joining Haida Fisheries

The Haida Fisheries Program is pleased to announce the hiring of Aggie Cangardle who will be filling the position of shellfish biologist and dive supervisor. Ms Cangardle started work on August 19th and will be working out of the Massett office. She was chosen from over 50 applicants, and, although the hiring process took longer than anticipated, Program Manager Brad Setso says it was well worth the wait.

"I'm really happy to join the team here at Haida Fisheries, where I can combine my love of marine biology with diving in an incredible part of the world," said Ms Cangardle.

A Canadian by birth, Ms Cangardle has spent most of her life in the United Kingdom, taking two degrees at Newcastle University: Marine Biology and Oceanography, and a postgraduate degree in Molecular Genetics in Microbial Biotechnology.

Ms Cangardle is replacing Sharon Jeffrey, who reluctantly moved off-Island to another position in the lower mainland. The fisheries program wishes all the best to Ms Jeffrey in her new position at Archipelago Marine Research Ltd. •

submitted by the public and businesses and how they are reviewed; I also worked with the Arch Geographical Information System and with scanning historical forestry files. Working as a summer student for the Natural Resource Department gave me knowledge about the opportunities available to me if I choose to go into forestry in the future.





Left: RCMP Constables Vanessa Aird and brother Calvin Aird with Mary Swanson at the opening of Gyaa Guu Kaga naas, the new RCMP station, during the Old Massett Aboriginal Day Celebrations. At Queen Charlotte Senior Secondary students were addressed by Yaahldaajii, Gary Russ and others, played games and worked on craft projects.

Aboriginal Day Celebrated

National Aboriginal Day kicked-off in Old Massett with a breakfast prepared by the village's tireless volunteers and was sponsored by Old Massett Village Council. Activities occurred all day throughout the village and included a parade, children's games and crafts, pedal cars, and a bicycle rodeo. Rollie Williams won the ever-popular fish splitting contest – in less than 10 seconds! The RCMP helped with the parade, hosted a barbecue lunch and opened a new community office. Gaadaa, Nonni Mary Swanson gifted the name Gyaa Guu Kaga Naas, *Safe Place* to the RCMP's new office, located in the Old Massett fire hall. The office was opened with

a prayer by Reverend Lily Bell, and Taawga Halaa Leyga, *May Russ* and Sgt Blake Ward cut the ribbon.

The Aboriginal Day celebrations at Queen Charlotte Secondary School started with a hot lunch and, following that, Yaahldaajii, *Gary Russ* and Xuud, *Jacob Brooks* spoke to the students about aboriginal history in Canada and the significance of the holiday. Adding to the celebration, the Sk'aadga Naay dance group performed for the elders and students to tremendous appreciation and applause. The day concluded with students working on projects in various mediums, including argillite, cedar bark, leather and paint.

Young Hands Raise Poles

By Graham Richard

The community of Hydaburg has raised two 12' 5" house posts carved by artist Warren Peele. Both posts are replicas of those standing in Elk Skin House in Sukwaan and feature a brown bear holding a frog, with an eagle at the top of one pole and a raven atop the other.

Event coordinator Hagoo, *Tony Christianson* and K'uyáang, *Benjamin Young* blessed the poles and the carvers danced. A large crowd then raised the poles in Hydaburg's central park on July 26th. The park now features 21 poles.

Helping out at the event were a group of children and youth from an annual three-day cultural camp, and many of them joined in to carry the poles to the site. Hagoo, K'uyáang, and Mr Peele expressed how happy they were to include youth from the popular culture camp.

Assisting Mr Peele in carving the house posts were Clarence Peele, Sonny Peele, Jim 'Kuuska' Bell, and Tony Ray Anderson. All of these artists are continuing their work on two more house posts, and three sculptures: an eagle and two brown bears. The work is all taking shape at Hydaburg's carving shed.



Welcome

Alfred William Harley Davidson IV

Haida Laas would like to introduce artist Slaay Gulaagaa, *Alfred Davidson IV*. Mr Davidson responded to the call for artists to have work published as spot illustrations in *Haida Laas*.

Slaay Gulaagaa was born in Prince Rupert and grew up in Old Massett. He is of the T'saahl Laanaas Eagle clan. His father Alfred Davidson III carves cedar and argillite, and as Slaay Gulaagaa watched his father work he became very familiar with Haida design, form, and techniques. He has also learned from books, through experimentation, and from other artists and family members.

In 2006, at the age of 12, Slaay Gulaagaa entered a logo design contest for George M Dawson's graduating class, and won. This gave him the encouragement to keep working and he followed up his logo success with designs for vests, tattoos, and a logo for a business that his uncle started. By the time he was 13 years old, Mr Davidson was selling paintings in Calgary. After these early accomplishments, he turned his attention to improving his technique and skill and in 2010 entered and won another logo contest for breast-cancer awareness, called A Walk For the Cure. He received a cash prize, the opportunity to promote his art, and had his winning design printed on t-shirts.

In 2011, Slaay Gulaagaa returned to Prince Rupert to attend the Pacific Coast School (PCS). He also joined the Urban Aboriginal Artists Collective to further expand his knowledge. Upon graduation from PCS, Mr Davidson plans to apply to the Fine Arts Program at the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art, in Terrace. Currently, Slaay Gulaagaa is apprenticing to Lyle Campbell and learning to carve cedar. His first mask was sold to Prince Rupert's Crest Hotel. You will be seeing more of Mr Davidson's illustrations in coming issues.



There were a few surprises at West Coast Night: Victor Thompson and Suzie Smith, with Ernie Swanson hamming it up.

Good times at West Coast Night

Submitted by Tamara Davidson

Over 200 people attended West Coast Family Night at the Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre this past May.

Noel Abrahams and Richard (Terry) Baker were co-Masters of Ceremonies overseeing the night's celebration and kept the event interesting and rolling along. It began with songs from our friends of the Kwakwaka'wakw nation. Following their strong performance, Haida singers and drummers were invited to join in. The women's dance was led by Barbara Abrahams, who was also being honoured for

organizing an Idle No More event ... and the men tried really hard, but they couldn't beat the ladies!

How'aa to all the Haida that came out and donated food that made the evening a huge success! Also, a big how'aa to the Council of the Haida Nation for the donation of cutlery, plates, bowls, napkins, the beef stew, and the mac & cheese. HaiCo was also generous, donating cake for dessert and buns to accompany the beef stew. Everyone had a good time, and I am looking forward to our next event!



Stop the destruction, start the healing

By Valine Crist

July 5th and 6th, 2013 marked the 4th annual Tar Sands Healing Walk in Fort McMurray, Alberta, the heart of the tar sands. From coast to coast, hundreds of people came and joined the First Nations and Métis walk. The focus of the walk is to heal the natural environment and the people who are suffering from the consequences of the tar sands' industrial activity.

According to the event's website, "Indigenous tradition asserts that it is a human responsibility to protect land, air, and water for future generations." This message motivated the walkers to take part in the 14 km trek around the tar sands, in collegial support and solidarity.

Several well-known activists, environmentalists and writers joined the walkers, including Bill McKibben, Naomi

Klein and Tzeporah Berman.

The tar sands project could eventually cover an area as big as Florida – approximately 14 million hectares – of which 300,000 hectares (3,000 km²) would be strip-mined, 10,000 hectares (100 km²) would be covered by settling ponds, and 3.5 million hectares (35,680 km²) would undergo oil sands development.

DID YOU KNOW?

Hydaburg Xaad kil: k'áalts'uu xáalaa
Masset K'aad kil: q'aahl ts'uu caalaa (Enrico)
Hlgagilda Xaayda kil: gudgaadu gamhlgaa
Latin: Myotis Keenii
English: Keen's bat

Keen's long-eared myotis is a vesper bat that occupies the steamy cave-networks of Gandl K'in. Surprisingly, Keen's myotis and the Little brown bat, sometimes called the Little brown myotis, live in integrated communities. Although these promiscuous bats court in the autumn, mothers can delay gestation until they wake from hibernation, because of an ability called 'embryonic diapause'. Embryonic diapause maintains an embryo in a state of dormancy.



While the bat communities are healthy at Gandl K'in, Keen's myotis is exceptionally rare along the coast, with only 10 confirmed sightings between 1895 and 1960. The bat's English name comes from John Henry Keen, an Anglican minister who encountered the bat in Masset in 1894.

Shawn Edenshaw: a conduit between here and there

By Valine Crist

Born into a political family – his father was the late Jim Edenshaw, and his uncle is the Haida nation’s former president, Guujaaw – and with a passion for art and culture, Shawn Edenshaw’s entrance into the political arena is a natural fit. In this interview, Mr Edenshaw, recently elected Vancouver rep for the Council of the Haida Nation, reflects on his Haida-Gitksan roots, life growing up in Vancouver, and the significance of the Council of the Haida Nation.

“I’ve always been surrounded by politics and my culture as long as I can remember,” says Shawn Edenshaw. “I was born and raised in Vancouver and it wasn’t until I was about 12 years old that I was really introduced to my Haida heritage, through the Rainbow Creek Dance Group. My mother, Janet Tait, was Gitksan and we spent a lot of time in her village [of] Kispiox.”

Reflecting on his history and what brought him to where he is today – a proud father and husband, and a singer, dancer, carver, and teacher – Mr Edenshaw shares more about his childhood and formative years, and describes what it was like getting to know his mixed Haida-Gitksan heritage.

Following his Gitksan lineage, he belongs to the Fireweed House of the Killer Whale clan. As a young boy, whenever there was a break from school, he and his family would drive up to Kispiox to hunt – moose and beaver in the winter, and groundhog in the summer. “I spent a lot of time in the [Kispiox] valley, fishing on the river with my grandfather on my mom’s side.” Mr Edenshaw recalls an effective trade system in place at the time: “We’d get a moose for ourselves and that would basically feed the family for the year. If we got more moose or got too much fish, we’d take the excess and go to the nearby farms and trade moose meat for fish or eggs, or milk or flour.”

A dedicated and busy father of two girls – Evelyn, 3, and Lillian, 16 weeks – and happily married, Mr Edenshaw eagerly tells the story of how he and his wife, Chelsea, met at work seven years ago. He describes working as the head of the carving department at the Capilano Suspension



Vancouver representative Shawn Edenshaw with daughters Evelyn (3 years) and newborn Lillian.

Bridge (CSB) Park, a popular tourist site located in North Vancouver. Mr Edenshaw was responsible for singing, dancing and carving, and was frontline interacting with all of the tourists passing through the busy attraction. The future Mrs Edenshaw was working at the Capilano Trading Post and was familiar with his work. “Chelsea was selling my art and she made a point to get to know all the artists whose work she sold in the gift shop. She very quickly caught my eye and now we’ve been married for two years.”

Mr Edenshaw explains that working at the CSB Park helped instill in him a sense of cultural pride, but it was spending time with Haidas in Vancouver that initially sent

him down an artistic path. “I used to watch my father and all of his friends – people like Freddie Davis, Rick Adkins, Garner Moody and Nelson Cross – I used to watch them working for hours.” This early exposure to the arts piqued his interest, and at 12 years old, he started developing his own skills.

Without his dad knowing, young Shawn would use his father’s tools to shape and engrave copper. “My dad knew I was working with copper, but he didn’t realize I was engraving most of the pieces, or at least trying to. One day he asked why I was so interested in his work and I had to tell him, ‘Well, I’ve actually been working with your tools since I was about 12.’ I was probably

16 at the time.” Mr Edenshaw recalls the conversation well: “I could see it on his face when he realized that’s why his tools were always so dull,” he chuckles.

Along with developing his artistic abilities, Mr Edenshaw says that Haida dancing has really helped shape him. Already involved with the Rainbow Creek Dance Group by grade 10, he and his family moved to Haida Gwaii. Soon after he moved to the Islands, he started working with Jenny Cross and the Skidegate children’s dance group, as well as the adult dance group. These experiences were enriching and helped give him confidence in his abilities.

“Being a part of these dance groups really helped with my ability to teach and to speak to large audiences,” he says. “When I was 21, I moved back to Vancouver and I carried that tradition of teaching with me, especially teaching children.” Today he is active with education programs ranging from pre-school to high school, and is a certified teacher at the Native Education College’s Northwest Coast Jewellery Arts Program.

Recognizing the integral role of mentors, Mr Edenshaw credits his successes to his early role models, particularly his father. “I experimented on my own, but I didn’t learn very much doing that. It wasn’t until

I actually started to sit down with my dad that I really took off with the art and I started engraving and cutting properly.”

Artistic interests aren’t all that Mr Edenshaw inherited from his father, a man who was politically active throughout his life. “My dad was a CHN rep for most of my childhood, when we were living in Vancouver. I’d hear him chatting away with Chub [Wayne Wilson] or Guujaaw, and we’d often talk about politics at the dinner table.”

With CHN’s many significant successes, Mr Edenshaw states that he’s always been proud to talk about his Haida heritage. “Any time someone down here in Vancouver asked what CHN was about, I’d explain what the CHN was doing, and talk about our accomplishments negotiating with the Canadian government.”

Summarizing the role of the nation’s government, Mr Edenshaw says that the CHN is the equivalent of the federal government; it’s the body overseeing the whole nation. He clarifies that although village councils play a very important role, CHN is responsible for higher-level, nation-to-nation negotiations and long-term planning for the Islands’ future.

His decision to run for CHN in this past election was due to a very involved discussion with his dad. “Everything just lined up

and it just seemed like the right time,” he comments, and goes on to say that taking on the role of Vancouver regional rep still feels surreal sometimes. “Every once in awhile I’ll be sitting there and it hits me – this is some pretty monumental stuff we’re all working on here.”

For now, Mr Edenshaw sits as an alternate on the Communications Committee and the Fundraising Committee, and as an elected rep he attends Seasonal Sessions either in person or remotely. Although familiar with Haida politics prior to the election, he admits he still has a lot to learn, and that has been his focus to date. “This year’s been very interesting for me – I’ve more or less taken on the role of observer, sort of like a watchman.”

The challenges of a political life, of course, come with rewards and Mr Edenshaw says that it feels great to be in a position to relay firsthand knowledge and information about CHN to citizens in the urban centre. “Sometimes we feel disconnected here in Vancouver and I’m really enjoying being a conduit for Haidas down here.



Illustration: Tyson Brown

The Ride To Conquer Enbridge: the back-story

By Valine Crist

Ryan Barber is a software developer in Victoria but spends a few months each summer living in Queen Charlotte. This past spring, a friend from Toronto sent him an email that read something like this: “Hey Ryan, I’m cycling 200+ kilometers to raise money for cancer research. Would you consider sponsoring me?”

Mr Barber decided to make a contribution and was startled when, after completing the donation online, the website proudly stated the event was in fact Enbridge’s Ride to Conquer Cancer. Enbridge was not named before he hit the ‘submit’ button, Mr Barber asserts, and this made him feel totally deceived.

Enbridge’s annual fundraising event takes place in British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec, and Ontario, and a quick look at the



Above: The Ride to Conquer Cancer has a different advertisement west of the Rockies than it does east of the Rockies. In the ad east of the Rockies, ENBRIDGE is prominently displayed, but west of the Rockies it is nowhere to be seen.

company’s web sites shows the differences in the way the event is promoted. Across BC, everyone’s thinking and talking about the controversial Northern Gateway proposal, and the company has removed its name from the event on the BC web site. Further from home, where the public may not recognize the threat the Northern Gateway project poses, the event is readily promoted as Enbridge’s Ride to Conquer Cancer.

After thinking about the irony of an oil company sponsoring an event to fight cancer

(cancer rates in and around Alberta’s tar sands, where Enbridge operates, are alarmingly high), Mr Barber’s surprise turned to outrage, and he decided to mobilize, initiating the Haida Gwaii Ride to Conquer Enbridge.

The event took place on Saturday, July 6th. Thirty-seven riders turned out for the cause and 17 completed the 120 km trek. Mr Barber says this will be an annual event for as long as Enbridge continues to push the Northern Gateway proposal.

One language barrier breached

By Graham Richard

Indigenous languages, in their incredible richness, describe some of the most intellectually complex worldviews on the planet.

This powerful belief has driven Gulkihlgad, Dr Marianne Ignace, to pursue learning about language throughout her life. That tireless pursuit paid off this June when Gulkihlgad and colleagues celebrated receiving a \$2.495 million grant to support the revitalization of the languages of many BC First Nations, including Xaayda kil.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) awarded the grant and will release the funds over the life of the seven-year project. In addition to this grant, project-partner Simon Fraser University will contribute cash and in-kind support totaling \$1.2 million, over seven years.

The SSHRC is a federal agency that promotes and supports research and training in the humanities and social sciences. In its two years of existence the fund has distributed \$332.4 million to 9,773 projects. Applications must pass a rigorous peer review process before they are even considered for funding.

Because SSHRC's largest grants are given to projects that are partnerships, the grant application process is complicated. Gulkihlgad and her colleagues' language revitalization project is entitled 'First Nations Languages in the Twenty-First Century: Looking Back, Looking Forward, and the partners include a dozen First Nations: Sm'algayax, Shuswap, Lillooet, Bella Bella, Chilcotin, Squamish Downriver Halkomelem, Tlingit, Southern Tutchone, Kwakwaka'wakw, Tahltan, and the Xaad

Kil Kuuyaas Society in Hydaburg, Alaska. There are also ten academic team members, from five universities, and they include University of Alberta linguist, Dr Jordan Lachler, who is working on the Alaskan Xaad kil, and Dr Hiro Hirofumi from Shizuoka University in Japan, who works with the Skidegate Haida Immersion Program. The partnership agreement stipulates that First Nations language groups will hold intellectual property rights to the research products developed through the project.

In 2010 the First Peoples Heritage, Language & Cultural Council of BC reported that most First Nation language groups will have no first-language speakers in the very near future, due mostly to an aging population. The situation on Haida Gwaii is no different and Guudee Gud Dlaaya, *Vince Collison*, understands the issue. Guudee Gud Dlaaya has chased funding for Old Massett language programs for years and has seen, first-hand, how the loss of elders impacts the use of Xaad kil on a daily basis. Words and concepts are being lost and forgotten. But that problem is being addressed in a variety of ways and by different groups: Chief Matthews School and the Skidegate Haida Immersion Program have identified three priorities to work on to revitalize the language. They are:

- to document the language with fluent speakers while we still can;
- to support learners to gain proficiency as quickly as possible;
- and to build 'cool apps' to encourage the learning of Xaad kil.

The new funds will complement these priorities by supporting fluent speakers and

elders as their knowledge is documented; training people to build and maintain language apps; and providing research assistants. The funds will not go toward academic collaborators, who are instead paid through their respective universities. Guudee Gud Dlaaya also noted the importance and success of master and apprentice language-learning teams, and hopes to focus energy on this very effective training method.

The Xaad kil team met for three days at SFU in June to establish short-term objectives and begin app development, using Dr Lachler's Conversation Guide as a starting point. On the technical side of the app development, SFU's Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies will design the structure of the Xaayda Kil learning-app, based on a Greek language learning-app. The team aims to complete a prototype for October's language gathering in Prince Rupert.

Many, many people have been involved over the years in maintaining and supporting language programs and learners. Guudee Gud Dlaaya acknowledges the tireless efforts of Lucille Bell, whose fundraising has been crucial to language programming for such a long time.

Above all, Gulkihlgad would like to recognize all of the elders for their 'passion, commitment and tireless work' in maintaining and reviving Xaayda kil and for their support of the learners. "The elders inspire all those involved to uphold their vision for Xaad kil," Gulkihlgad said. •



Taking advantage of the endless beach at T'aalan Stl'ang are from left: Mia Edenshaw, Aubrey Clements, Gulkihlguh Yakgujanaas, Freeman Bell, Cameron White, Tyson Young, Devon Boyko, Kaden Yaroshuk, and Donovan Hunter, Jr Guide.

T'aalan Stl'ang wraps for the summer

A potluck dinner and slideshow were held in Old Massett on August 20th to bring people back together and celebrate another successful year at the T'aalan Stl'ang Cultural Camp. The community affair recognized participants, volunteers, staff, and donating organizations and individuals.

At the camp on the sandy west coast beach there were three sessions held – two pre-teen sessions and one teen session – with a total of 28 participants. This year, in addition to our regular staff, we had Duane Everett from the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program of BC. Mr Everett had many options for work placements but chose Haida Gwaii – how'aa.

As people know, the camp can't run without help from the community, and just like every other year, we had a great bunch of volunteers! A huge how'aa to all of them: Jenny Nelson, Dee Brennan, Sean Brennan, Derek Belcourt, Bernice Jones, Darlene White, Buster Bell, Korbin Adams, Ashley Jacobson, and Jenny Roberts.

Community involvement in-town and in-camp is critical to running the operation. This year the Haida Fisheries Watchman Program stepped up again. How'aa to Blake Williams,

Barney Edgars, Cullen Marks, Jordan Jones, Richard Smith, Max Collison, and Josh Vandal for all you did for the camp.

Alongside us, all summer, was the RCMP. Their support and involvement is important on so many levels and included help with transportation and supplies, and volunteering in camp. How'aa to the Masset detachment and members Calvin Aird, Chris Kienzle, and Bryan Schultz.

We began setting up T'aalan Stl'ang in May to prepare for the Queen Charlotte Secondary School graduating class. The students spent four days of their final time together at camp. We felt very honoured to have them choose T'aalan Stl'ang for their grad trip. They made instruments from beach flotsam and jetsam, hung out by the fire, collected seaweed, and swam in the ocean. They even attempted to surf in the flat water! Their attendance at the camp was a fitting way to open the Rediscovery season and end their year – how'aa QCSS graduating class.

This year's staff was:

- Camp Cook: Joanne Collison
- Program Director: Raven Ann Potschka

- In-town Coordinator: Amber Bellis
- Intern: Josh McLeod
- Aboriginal Youth Internship Program: Duane Everett
- Senior Guides: Victor Thompson and Erika Stocker
- Junior Guides: Allanah Jacobson and Donovan Hunter.
- Special thanks to Harmony Williams, Old Massett Youth Worker.



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All Gassed Up ^{Part 3}

The final installment in

a 3-part series examining liquid natural gas and fracking in BC.

By Valine Crist

With the provincial government eager to extract BC's natural gas and sell it to Asia, the rush to get in on the boom has bombarded the provincial bureaucracy and citizens monitoring the industry with so much information it's leaving some locals shell-shocked.

The projects range from wishful start-ups to the five proposals that are officially on the books and being processed. Each proposal would see a dramatic increase in fracking in the northeastern region of BC and require massive liquefaction plants to be built on the coast.

In this article *Haida Laas* highlights these five projects to provide scope to this booming industry and to help clarify the confusing multi-agency referral process.

Liquefied Natural Gas: the facts

Industry turns natural gas to liquid by cooling it to -162°C – this makes it easier to transport (liquefied gas condenses to 1/600th the volume of gas in its natural state). The liquefied gas is then transported on enormous, specially designed carrier ships and regasified upon delivery.

Liquefying natural gas is one of the most energy-intensive industrial processes today. Just one LNG facility could use approximately 1,200 megawatts of power. The controversial Site C hydro project in the Peace River would produce only 900 megawatts, so critics contend that BC simply doesn't have the ability to meet LNG's high-energy demands. These, among a myriad of other safety, environmental, and security concerns, have many British Columbians seeking more information.

- Processing and transporting LNG produces some 140% more greenhouse gas emissions than natural gas (in fact, the process of liquefying and then regasifying the hydrocarbon is estimated to have the same environmental impact as coal production).
- An LNG fire poses a very serious thermal radiation hazard. LNG explosions can reach temperatures as high as 2,000 degrees Celsius (enough to cause second-degree burns 1.6 km away).

- An LNG spill can lead to vapour clouds that can drift kilometres from the spill site, and in very specific conditions, they can be ignited. If a vapour cloud does ignite, it can create a fireball of extremely high heat. Although this is considered an unlikely event with LNG transport, it is a real and potential danger.
- Some of the proposed LNG plants' operations would entail pumping massive amounts of water from the ocean, potentially disrupting delicate ecosystems.
- It is possible for an LNG facility to use its own natural gas to power the plant, but this creates significantly more pollution than using an outside energy source.
- Specially designed carrier ships are used to export LNG, and at least four of the projects proposed to date would use Q Max LNG carrier ships. At 345 metres long (that's just over 3 football fields), and with a capacity of 266,000 m³, Q Max vessels are the largest LNG carriers available. There are only 14 in use worldwide today.
- With limited routing options, LNG carriers could conflict with local, commercial-fishing vessels, wilderness tourism, and other local and community-based marine activities.
- Nearby communities and ecosystems might also be impacted by LNG carrier waste, noise, and vessel lights.
- LNG terminals and the associated marine traffic would impinge on recreational activities, and on commercial- and food-fishing in nearby waters.
- In the event of extreme weather, navigational hazards, or any other emergency, Haida Gwaii could be an LNG carrier's only resort. Transport Canada has recommended a number of refuge sites, including: McIntyre Bay, Tasu Inlet, Skidegate Inlet, and Houston Stewart Channel.

Liquefied Natural Gas: potential impacts from LNG carriers

Noise impacts on marine species, particularly marine mammals, such as whales

The large engine and slow-turning propellers of vessels like LNG carriers create strong, low frequency noise under water. In some marine conditions, these sounds can travel up to 400 kilometres. From north to south, Haida Gwaii is approximately 250 kilometres, so the underwater acoustic impacts of LNG carriers in local waters would be significant.

Foreign and invasive species introduced through ballast water

Gigantic LNG carriers require massive amounts of water to help balance the vessel on its voyage; thousands of tonnes of ballast water are collected in the departure port and discharged upon arrival at their destination. Although dumping foreign water is subject to national or international regulations, invasive species would likely be introduced into local waters, posing a serious threat to regional ecosystems.

In Canada, ballast water must be chemically treated, pumped ashore, retained on board, or exchanged at sea. If the ballast water were exchanged at sea, LNG carrier ships would be dumping foreign seawater just 50 nautical miles off the west coast of Haida Gwaii and refilling with local water before coming into port.

Impacts from vessel wake

Large marine vessels can create significant wakes that impact shores many miles away from their sources.

Vessel emissions and air pollution

LNG carriers emit carbon dioxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbons, aerosols, nitrogen, oxides, sulphur oxides, carbon monoxide and other particulate matter. These fuel-intensive vessels cost a lot to run, so operators often opt for cheaper fuels, which create more pollution.

The proposals: a summary

As of mid-August, the National Energy Board had granted export licenses to three of the proposed LNG projects, and at least five were under federal or provincial environmental review. There are several variables that dictate which reviews, regulations, and licenses are required. For example, the source of the gas determines whether the project requires a federal or provincial review, and in some cases an environmental review is not required. Although each proposal is at a different stage of environmental review or feasibility study, none of the projects have committed financing.

At full capacity, the following five proposals, combined, could bring 1,043 LNG carriers to the coast annually (that's an average of 2.86 vessels plying through coastal waters each day).



Kitimat LNG

Location: Bish Cove, Kitimat

Partners: Chevron • Apache Corporation

- \$4.5 billion
- Environmental Assessment complete
- Export license approved
- In service by 2016
- Up to 10 million tonnes of LNG per year
- 5-7 LNG shipments per month

Excerpt from Project Description:

Kitimat LNG will include natural gas liquefaction, LNG storage and marine on-loading facilities. Natural gas will be delivered via a pipeline lateral of approximately 14 kilometers from the Pacific Trail Pipelines, which will connect to the existing Spectra Energy Westcoast Pipeline system.

Although the Kitimat LNG proposal still requires some feasibility testing before investors consider it a definite business project, this proposal has undergone all major provincial and federal environmental assessments and is the most advanced to date.

The proposed project is associated with the Pacific Trail Pipeline Project. The Pacific Trail Pipeline has signed commercial agreements with 15 First Nations along the proposed pipeline route.

Kitimat LNG is currently upgrading the Bish Forestry Service Road in order to prepare for future traffic demands associated with the proposed project.

Douglas Channel LNG (also known as BC LNG) **Location: Douglas Channel, Kitimat** **Partners: Haisla Nation, LNG Partners**

- \$500 million
- Environmental Assessment not required
- Export license approved
- In service by 2015
- Up to 1 million tonnes of LNG per year
- 1 LNG shipment per month (12 shipments per year)

In partnership with the Haisla nation, this project proposes a barge-based natural gas liquefaction plant using existing pipeline infrastructure.

Permanently located in Douglas Channel (south of the Half Moon Bay Marina), the site would be 10 km southwest of Kitimat and 7 km north of Bees Cove Indian Reserve.

The plant, including a small LNG buffer tank and electrical substation, would bring one LNG berth into Douglas Channel and would include adjacent infrastructure on land to connect the existing gas pipeline to the project site.

The proposed project would use hydroelectric power from BC Hydro.

A privately-owned partnership, the Douglas Channel Energy Partners was formed specifically to construct and operate the Douglas Channel LNG project.

From the roads, to power lines, pipelines, barge foundations and berths, every component of the project is proposed to be constructed on privately-owned lands.

Western Canada LNG **(also referred to as Prince Rupert LNG):** **Location: Ridley Island, Prince Rupert** **Partners: BG Group, Spectra Energy**

- \$16 billion
- Under federal environmental review
- Applied for export license, June 2013
- In service by 2019
- 21 million tonnes of LNG per year
- 12-16 shipments per month (156-208 shipments per year, which could increase to 251-303 shipments per year, at full capacity)

Proponents tout approximately 4,000 jobs during construction and estimate 50-60 permanent jobs upon project completion.

The proposed pipeline would transport over four billion cubic feet of natural gas from northeastern BC to Prince Rupert (approximately 850 km) every day. The facility would include two loading berths.

LNG Canada Gas **Location: Kitimat** **Partners: Royal Dutch Shell PLC, Korea Gas Corporation, Mitsubishi Corporation, PetroChina Company Limited**

- \$4 billion
- Under provincial environmental review
- Export license approved
- In service by 2018
- Up to 24 million tonnes of LNG per year
- 14-29 shipments per month (170-350 LNG shipments per year)

The LNG Canada Gas proposal will require both federal and provincial environmental assessments.

According to the project description, eight First Nations might be affected by the proposed project and/or associated marine shipping: Haisla, Gitxaala, Gitga'at, Lax Kw'alaams, Metlakatla, Kitselas, Kitsumkalum, Métis nation of BC, and the Haida nation.

Supporting infrastructure to the plant would include: power supply and handling, water supply and handling, wastewater collection and wastewater treatment.

Excerpts from the LNG Canada Gas project description:

Potential Project Effects

Fish and Fish Habitat: changes to fish and fish habitat, as defined in the Fisheries Act, may include permanent alteration and destruction of habitat through interactions between the project footprint and aquatic riparian areas of the Kitimat River estuary side channels and tributaries.

Effects of Environmental Changes on Aboriginal Peoples.

Potential effects of environmental changes on Aboriginal peoples could result in human health effects, socioeconomic effects, effects on traditional and cultural activities, and effects on heritage resources. Examples of potential effects to Aboriginal peoples are:

Human health effects such as:

- Degradation of local air quality through combustion of fossil fuels, acid gas incineration, and potential flaring, with the potential to contribute to inhalation-based health effects; and
- Sensory disturbance and or degradation due to exposure to noise.

Change to traditional harvesting activities through loss of vegetation resources:

- Loss of community diversity (e.g. old forest, listed ecosystems, wetlands) through site clearing; and
- Loss of species diversity (e.g. listed species, traditional use plants) through site clearing.

Change to traditional harvesting of aquatic resources through:

- Change in marine mammal and fish behaviour due to underwater noise;
- Change in risk of mortality to marine mammals due to risk of vessel strikes; and
- Change in habitat availability through permanent alteration and destruction of habitat through interactions between the Project footprint and aquatic or riparian areas of the Kitimat River estuary side channels and tributaries.

Change in traditional activities along the marine access route through:

- increasing amount of larger marine traffic affecting local vessels;
- increasing noise disturbance due to increasing marine traffic; and
- changes to air quality through marine traffic emissions.

Pacific Northwest LNG **Location: Lelu Island, Port Edward** **Partners: Progress Energy Canada Ltd.** **(a wholly owned subsidiary of PETRONAS)**

- \$16 billion
- Federal environmental review in progress
- Applied for export license, July 2013
- In service by 2018
- 19.68 million tonnes of LNG per year
- 15 LNG shipments per month (182 shipments per year), which could increase to almost one per day (350 per year) at full capacity

Currently in the feasibility and engineering phase, this proposed project falls within the jurisdiction of the Prince Rupert Port Authority, and would be located within the District of Port Edward (which is part of the Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District).

Seeking access to Pacific Rim markets in Asia, the liquefaction plant would include two LNG carrier berths.

Additional infrastructure would include: water supply pipeline, wastewater treatment systems, and a two-lane bridge from Lelu Island to the mainland.

Contaminated wastewater and sewage would be piped to Port Edward where it would be disposed of following treatment.

The largest vessel the facility could accommodate would be the

Q Flex LNG carrier. These ships are approximately 345 metres in length with an LNG capacity of 266,000 m³.

Vessels of this size have a required routing from Prince Rupert Harbour, through the Hecate Strait, and out the Dixon Entrance.

The Pacific Northwest LNG pipeline, associated liquefaction plant, and marine shipping will be assessed as individual components of the proposal. This is true of all proposed LNG export projects – each piece is reviewed as an individual part, without any comprehensive analysis of the whole. This means the pipeline is reviewed as one project, and the liquefaction plant is considered separately, as is the marine shipping component.

The proposed project could create approximately 3,500 construction jobs and 200-300 permanent jobs when in full operation.

According to the project description, the plant would be located on lands subject to overlapping claims of aboriginal rights and title. Five First Nations have asserted claims within the region: Metlakatla, Lax Kw'alaams, Gitxaala, Kitselas, and Kitsumkalum.

The company identifies a number of wildlife species that could be impacted under the federal Species at Risk Act. These include: marbled murrelet, northern goshawk, ancient murrelet, peregrine falcon, northern resident killer whale and harbour porpoise.

The key issues that First Nations have raised to date include:

- Location and length of the trestle—potential effects on fishing and marine navigation
- Archaeological sites and artifacts on Lelu Island
- Cumulative effects—including other LNG facilities and natural gas pipelines
- Emissions from the LNG facility—potential effects to vegetation, wildlife, and human health
- LNG carrier—safety, including marine response to emergencies in international waters

According to the company's project description, local First Nations are particularly concerned about losing access to their traditional right to hunt, fish, gather resources, harvest trees, and use key marine waterways.

Excerpt from project description:

Progress [Energy Resources] proposes to engage in discussions with First Nations on an on-going basis throughout the environmental assessment process to determine potential effects on specific Aboriginal rights and interests, and to identify appropriate mitigation, accommodation, and compensation measures. Throughout all stages of the project development, Progress intends to continue to communicate regularly with First Nations to ensure that they are kept up to date on the status of the Project. •



Thanks, But No Tanks an art exhibition

By Graham Richard

“I am proud to be Haida – I am proud to come from Haida Gwaii,” asserts photographer Michaela McGuire. “This pride is entrenched in our souls. It is an unspoken understanding that in times of hardship we will band together, and, united, we are a force to be reckoned with.” Ms McGuire’s ongoing photo campaign is designed to inspire and promote the Haida nation’s solidarity in resisting the proposed Enbridge pipeline project. It was her conviction about the perils of the pipeline project that inspired the Haida Gwaii Museum’s curator, Jisgang, *Nika*

Collison, to put together Thanks, But No Tanks, an art show that would examine facets of the pipeline proposal.

Using the Enbridge pipeline and supertanker proposal as a starting point, artists were asked to explore how the perceived opportunities and threats of the proposal affect natural, social, psychological and spiritual space. Rather than simply leaving the conflict on the walls, the show strove to encourage an examination of the assumptions and biases we all tend to bring to the subject. Jenn Dysart, Interim Director of the Haida Gwaii Museum, said that the

exhibit really addressed the HGM’s aim “to create a space where critical thought and dialogue are inspired”.

So, when the show attracted some criticism, which included comments about hypocrisy and bias, it was considered a great response to the exhibition. “I feel we brought a quality of critical inquiry to this subject that is still generating a lot of consideration about our use of oil, and how we are implicated in that relationship,” explained Ms Collison. The show followed in the footsteps of *No Tankers, T’ank You*, a comic book produced in 1977 by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas and

“... this Inquiry involves what many residents of British Columbia see as life and death issues. These residents are not extremists.”

Andrew Thompson, Commissioner of the Federal Inquiry for the Kitimat Pipeline Proposal – February 1978

They are all controversial pieces – it all depends on where you are coming from.

Nika Collison, Curator

John Broadhead. The comic was ‘inspired’ by the Exxon proposal to build a pipeline from Edmonton, terminating at an oil port in Kitimat – the pipeline would have connected with supertanker traffic coming south from Valdez, Alaska. In response to this threat, Mr Yahgulanaas and Mr Broadhead wrote, illustrated, and distributed over 500 copies of the comic, which mocked the proposal. In 1989, 12 years after Exxon abandoned the Kitimat oil-port proposal, the Exxon-Valdez spilled a catastrophic 11 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound, which spread along 2,100 km of coastline and out over 11,000 square km of ocean. “That could have been us,” said Ms Collison. “It shouldn’t have happened to anyone.”

The show was not without irony. Ms Collison is fully aware most of the art was made from petroleum-based materials, and as one viewer succinctly summarized: “I think we all drove here!” It is this uncertain, love-hate relationship with oil that was embedded in many of the show’s pieces; it is also something which, earlier, spilled over into the community when a couple of outlets – despite normally posting community notices – would not display the show’s promotional material, fearful of controversy.

It’s this mix of quandaries, contradictions and emphatic positions that made the show irresistible. “I am thrilled with the outcome,” Ms Collison said. “It was such a privilege to journey with the artists, going deeper into their processes of thought and creation. They delivered compelling, intelligent artworks and artist statements.”

The show featured works by 20 artists, in mediums and techniques as varied as the artists’ personalities. Contributors included John Broadhead; Betsy Cardell; Kayoko Daugert; Gwaai Edenshaw; Haidawood; Jason Goetzinger; Jase El-Nino; Natasha Lavdovsky; Pierre Leichner; Dr Ken Leslie; Michaela McGuire; Janice Tanton; the collective known as Thursday Nights in the Art Room; and Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas.



Three examples of artwork from the Thanks, But No Tanks art show held at the Haida Gwaii Museum this past summer. Page 14: A figure considers the landscape in an acrylic painting by Janice Tanton called *Crossing Over at Alliford Bay*. Above: A detail of a seemingly innocent beach scene is portrayed by Kayoko Daugert. The watercolour painting on paper is called *Catching a Swarm of False Promises*. Below: A panel from the comic book *No Tankers, T’ank You* by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas and John Broadhead. The comic was published in 1977 in response to the Kitimat Pipeline Proposal.



Haida Citizen public meetings

CHN Traditional Marine Harvest Policy

The Haida Fisheries Program is pleased to announce two community-engagement sessions for the process of developing a *Haida Traditional Marine Harvest Policy*.

Two years ago HFP hired Dana Bellis to begin the process of drafting a *Haida Gwaii Traditional Marine Harvest Policy*. At that time the HFP and Ms Bellis hosted two open houses which were followed by 80-90 interviews including elders, chiefs, youth, fisherman, citizens and elected officials. Ms Bellis compiled the information from those meetings and interviews, drafted a report, and has made suggestions for a food fish policy.

This September we are presenting the report and policy suggestions to Haida citizens at two dinner meetings.

**Old Massett – Tluu Xaada Naay
September 17, 2013**

5 pm – Dinner

6 pm – Presentation and Discussion

**Skidegate Community Hall
September 19, 2013**

5 pm – Dinner

6 pm – Presentation and Discussion

