

HAIDA LAAS

SEPTEMBER 27, 1994

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\$1



Journal of the Haida Nation

GWAII TRUST ESTABLISHED ON HAIDA GWAII

Skidegate, Haida Gwaii

Federal and provincial ministers joined officials of the Gwaii Trust Society at a ceremony in Skidegate to celebrate the establishment of the Gwaii Trust.

After years of negotiating, compromising and cooperation, representatives from Haida and non-Haida communities of Haida Gwaii are one step closer to realizing the goal of establishing a locally-controlled perpetual endowment fund which will be used to stimulate cultural and economic growth and sustainable de-

velopment on Haida Gwaii.

On hand for the event were Western Economic Diversification Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Secretary of State (Training and Youth) Ethel Blondin-Andrew, BC Minister of Skills, Training and Labour Dan Miller and Vancouver-East MP Anna Terrane. Representing the Haida Nation were Miles Richardson, President of the CHN, Michael Nicol Yaghulaanas, May Russ, Old Massett Village Council, and Gilbert Parnell, Skidegate Band Council. On hand and

(cont.pg.3)

HAIDA LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

Meetings have been held since the language conference in May. These have been developmental and planning, in nature, and the philosophy has resulted in naming the working group "Xaad.daa K'aalagaas" (Masset/Alaska dialect), "Gwaalagaa XaaydaGaay" (Skidegate dialect), which both translate to "Ambitious Haida People".

The conference theme has been amended to that of a Workshop, which imparts a goal oriented event. There are plans to develop regular learning forums, to excite people to learn by undertaking personal goals, and to address the stigmas which have recurred in our lives and have been a deterrent to learning to speak Haida. There is much work and much to accept and learn about in the language forum.

The Workshop is scheduled to take place in Skidegate, Friday and Saturday, September 30 & October 1, 1994, starting at 9:30 a.m. daily. Lunch sales will be undertaken by the Skidegate Homemakers on

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HAIDA LAAS

both days to raise money for the renovations of their new building. So even if you can't make the Workshop, drop by for lunch and plenty of smiling faces.

"Xaad.daa K'aalagaas"/

"Gwaalagaa XaaydaGaay"

wants to incorporate under the Societies Act of BC so that there can be a vehicle which can receive and expend funds. The Society will be open to all Haida Citizens, and will be accountable to the citizens, and to the three Haida Councils. Ernie Collison is charged with getting Council's support and starting the incorporation process.

Fundraising is being undertaken as this endeavour will require a fair bit of money to achieve all the work that is put before us as a nation to recover our language. There are plans to hire a Coordinator, who will play a major role in carry out the tasks necessary to keep the project moving forward and at the same time lobbying agencies for funding. Funds will be needed for meeting and learning facilities and other associated costs that will be incurred.

All Haida People are encouraged to attend the Haida Language Workshop. An article in the Prince Rupert Daily News, the Haida Language is described as "A language hanging by the skin of it's teeth". We must do our part and take responsibility for our legacy, our language. Each person must bring one Elder with you. We must do this together!

HAIDA LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

EVERYONE WELCOME

AGENDA

Haida Family Trees & Kinship
Songs Workshop & Protocol
Writing in Haida Language
Audio/Visual Workshop

*

Lunch Sale daily by the
Skidegate Homemakers

*

Potluck Dinner
Saturday Night

*

**Each person must bring
one elder with you!**

**Friday & Saturday
Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 1994**

9:30 am ✧ Daily

Council of the Haida Nation

Executive:

Miles G. Richardson, President
Arnie Bellis, Vice President

Representatives:

Charlie Bellis
Bruce Brown
Vernon Brown
Robert Dudoward
Jim Edenshaw
Tom Greene Sr.
Henry Hageman
Gary Russ
Bill White
Charles Yorke
Wilson Brown (ex-officio)
Paul Pearson (ex-officio)

HAIDA LAAS: JOURNAL OF THE HAIDA NATION

Editorial Policy:

- * To educate and inform Haida People on what is taking place within the Haida Nation; and everything that affects the Haida Nation.
- * To form a communication link between all Haida's living off Island and on.
- * To educate the non-Haida people on the aims of the Haida Nation.
- * Haida Laas has the right to edit all submissions that will be printed in the paper.
- * Approval must be obtained from the Communications Committee prior to printing of articles.
- * The Comm. Committee has final responsibility for what is published.

" THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF THE HAIDA LAAS NEWSLETTER IS THE DISSEMINATION OF QUALITY INFORMATION THAT IS ACCURATE,ISSUE ORIENTED AND REFLECTS HAIDA LIFE AND CHANGES."

GWAII TRUST (cont. fr. pg. 1)

representing other Island communities were Mayor of Port Clements David Wilson, Masset Councillor Kevin Swanson, Area "D" (QCC) Bill McKay, Area "E" (Sandspit) Warren Foster.

The Gwaii Trust will operate according to the recently released Gwaii Trust Business Plan which addresses the investment strategy and framework of the Gwaii Trust which was developed in consultation with all communities of Haida Gwaii. The plan identifies and follows goals developed by the islands communities that are consistent with the South Moresby Agreement. These are: To foster the spirit of cooperation, cultural understanding and trust by promoting the concept of the Islands as one community; To enhance the Island Community through improving infrastructure thereby stimulating the local business, and making the Island Community a more desirable place to visit; To provide the greatest benefit to the Island Community; To assist in the development of strategies affecting the well-being of the Island Community; To assist in promoting local control over proven record of socially responsible investments. It will be invested in a balanced portfolio of stocks, bonds and treasury bills to protect the fund from poor performances in any of the markets.

It is expected that in the first few years of operation the interest would be rolled back into the capital and that there will only be spending on operational needs,

research and planning. It is estimated that annual expenditures in main components will be: Administration - 11.6%, Inflation Proofing - 40.7% and Programs - 47.7%.

Financial assistance will be offered under three main programs: 1. Direct Loans - to improve access to sources of financing by participating communities, to assist and encourage the modernization, expansion or establishment of community infrastructure and to provide gap financing and allow projects to proceed as planned. 2. Loan Guarantees - to provide easier access to commercial sources of working capital funding for participating communities and to promote and support communities that are judged by commercial lenders to be viable but lacking in sufficient collateral security to meet normal lending criteria. 3. Grants - to provide assistance to communities on the Islands in community development programs, cultural and social programs, enhanced education and research and planning for sustainable natural and human resources.

The Program framework for spending the fund has been designed to benefit the greatest number of people on Haida Gwaii. Following extensive community consultation, GTIPS feels that infrastructure is the number one priority of the Island Community and that recent studies show that attractive, well serviced communities will provide the essential foundation for eco-

nomic development. Other economic development ideas which have been identified in the Gwaii Trust planning process by islanders are organized into key sectors which are: Environmental Responsiveness; Education; Energy; Water; Waste Management; Communication; Forestry; Marine Resources; Small Business; Tourism; Agriculture; Informal Economy; Cultural Heritage; Art; Science; Youth and Elders; Health; and Recreation. In each section, the key challenges seen by Islanders are outlined and generally indicate the kinds of strategic actions needed to meet those challenges.

The Gwaii Trust will be managed by the Board of Directors, made up of eight representatives of the Island communities: four appointed by the Council of the Haida Nation and four appointed/elected representatives from each of the following: Masset, Port Clements, Electoral Area D (QCC), and Electoral Area E (Sandspit). An outside chairperson will be appointed by the Council of the Haida Nation. In the first year of operation staffing will consist of a General Manager and a Office Manager who will be responsible for administration and day to day operations. The Board is charged with the responsibility of seeking tenders and appointing an investment manager or managers from reputable financial management institutions.

Skidegate will host the next round of Treaty Talks between the Council of the Haida Nation (CHN), Canada and British Columbia on Wednesday and Thursday, October 5 & 6, 1994, at the Skidegate Community Hall starting each day at 9:30 a.m.

This meeting continues with Stage Two of the Six Stage Process for negotiating treaties recommended by the BC Claims Task force Report (BCCTFR) to which all three parties are committed to proceed upon. Stage Two is preparation to negotiate and where each of the parties must meet certain agreed upon criteria to determine their "readiness" to negotiate.

At the last meeting in June, the CHN discussed a number of issues pertaining to "readiness" such as: Letters of Commitment; Identifying the Chief Negotiator and Main Contact; Ensuring there is a Mandate to Negotiate; Ensuring there is a Ratification procedure in place; and developed a list of substantive procedural issues which will be discussed during Stage III, Negotiations.

One issue, for which there was lengthy discussion, was that of Funding, which is a critical issue of process. The CHN's view on terms of repayment of First Nations Negotiations loans be negotiated as part of the financial component of treaties, whereas the federal government and the BC Treaty Commission have a formula for loans (80%) and

contributions (20%) and certain terms for repayment. Miles Richardson, Chief Negotiator, stated at the last meeting "The Haida Nation is not coming to Canada and BC hat in hand looking for money to finance this process or any other process. When you talk about loans, we made it very clear from the beginning that that concept and that principle gives us deep concern. We view that those dollars of which we speak, out of the treasuries of Canada and BC, are rightfully Haida dollars also, from the wealth that is extracted from our islands. So when we hear of loans, we see no sense in borrowing our own money and paying it back at some point in the future when we have never discussed compensation for the wrongful expropriation of our resources."

The Council of the Haida Nation initiated a resolution at the recent First Nations Summit, which states that the Federal negotiation loan agreement is a precondition to treaty negotiations which is not acceptable to the BC Treaty process and that First Nations Negotiations Loans be negotiated as part of the financial component of treaties. This resolution was carried by consensus at the Summit along with another related resolution which states that should the parties fail to reach an agreement on Default and Termination and Repayment of loans, then all loans to the First Nations in the BC Treaty making

process be deemed to be forgiven.

At the next meeting, items on the agenda include: Public Education; Stage III - Negotiations; Financing; and The Role of the BC Treaty Commission.

TREATY NOTES

Province opens up land claims process.

Premier Mike Harcourt outlined BC's principles for openness in land claims negotiations. Principles that provincial negotiators will take to the table are:

- * Open negotiations must be the starting point, closed negotiations the exception.
- * All British Columbians must have the opportunity to provide meaningful input into the negotiations process.
- * BC's negotiation mandates and bottom lines will be made public.
- * BC will pursue the most effective means of opening up and sharing information about negotiating sessions as widely as possible.
- * There will be mandatory sign off of all treaty settlements by the BC Legislature.

Harcourt also took the opportunity to clarify that interim measures agreements with First Nations do not transfer ownership of any land or resources to First Nations, and do not give First Nations or bands a veto over government resource-use or economic development decisions. In the interest of public confidence, Harcourt said the principles of openness should be applied to interim measures negotiations as well as treaties.

Fisheries

Recently, our President, Miles Richardson, wrote to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to request that the CHN have access to the fisheries management process to address Haida fisheries priorities. This letter does good to explain the CHN's position towards fisheries issues here on Haida Gwaii.....

Honorable Brian Tobin
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Tobin

1995 Herring Fisheries and Stock Forecasts

We were recently informed that DFO forecasts of herring stocks in Haida Gwaii for 1995 are below the DFO cutoff level for herring fisheries to occur. Haida Fishers are very concerned about the effect of a closure on the traditional Haida fishery for k'aaw or Herring spawn-on-kelp.

Haida fisheries policies need to be accounted for in DFO's management planning process, which is best done by an exchange of views in a common management planning forum. I wish to clarify Haida priorities in management of fisheries in Haida Gwaii. These are as follows:

1. The first priority is conservation.
2. The second priority is Haida fisheries, which include Haida commercial fisheries.
3. Non-Haida fisheries may be allowed on remaining surpluses

based on optimum sustainable yield for the communities of Haida Gwaii.

As part of implementing this policy in 1993, the Council of the Haida Nation acted on a resolution to stop non-Haida "J" licence holders (in the herring spawn-on-kelp fishery) from operating in Haida Gwaii waters without permission of the CHN.

DFO is required to consult with First Nations where their actions interfere with aboriginal rights. regressive 1994 DFO policies prevent First Nations from participating in DFO management forums and examining DFO scientific management advice in a timely manner.

The lack of access to technical information is a serious breach of DFO's fiduciary responsibility to First Nations. In my letter to you dated August 24, 1994, I requested, on behalf of the Northwest Tribal Treaty (including the Nissga'a and Tsimshian Nations) to nominate a representative to attend DFO PSARC subcommittee and working group meetings in 1994. This would have eased the present situation considerably.

We ask that you immediately open up the fisheries management process to ensure that 1995 fishing plans address Haida fisheries priorities.

Sincerely,
Council of the Haida Nation
Miles G. Richardson
President

PASSAGES

Head'stone Moving & Memorial

For
Claude Arnold Davidson
ts'aa7ahl 'laanaas clan
Arlene Vivian Davidson
ts'aa7ahl janaas clan
Friday, October 7, 1994.
Old Massett, Haida Gwaii

Headstone Moving & Memorial

For
Florence Edenshaw Davidson
yahgu janaas clan
Saturday, October 8, 1994.
Old Massett, Haida Gwaii

Headstone Moving & Memorial

For
Godfrey Collinson Williams
na7i kun kiigawaay clan
Saturday, October 15, 1994
Skidegate, Haida Gwaii

Reburial Ceremony, End of Mourning Ceremony and YAHGUDAANG 'LAAGINANGAAY

Saturday, October 22, 1994
Skidegate, Haida Gwaii

ENVIRONMENT

Islands Solid Waste Advisory
Committee Update
September 1994

STAGE III PUBLIC REVIEW

Public meetings will be held next week to publicly review the draft STAGE III of the Islands portion of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. This 65 page document is the culmination of a planning process which began three years ago, and these are the fourth set of public meetings to discuss progress. The plan is scheduled for implementation January 1, 1995. Some of the recommendations which have been made are:

- * a single landfill for Haida Gwaii near Port Clements;
- * transfer stations in Masset, Skidegate and Sandspit;
- * capitol costs funded by property taxation, estimated at .20 - .30\$ per \$1000 of assessed value;
- * mandatory garbage collection service, Islands-wide;
- * fixed household garbage

collection fee (estimated at \$10 - \$20 per month);

* 2 - bag per household weekly trash limit;

* user fees for extra services (\$2 per extra bag, white goods disposal etc.);

* recycling program for white goods and auto hulks, support for recycling other materials;

* on-going Islands Solid Waste Management Commission to monitor activities.

Public meetings will be held from

7:30-9:30 p.m. on:

* Monday, September 26 - Sandspit Lions Hall

* Tuesday, September 27 - Queen Charlotte Community Hall

* Wednesday, September 28 - Masset Community Hall

Members of the Islands Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee and staff will attend to answer questions and note concerns.

Copies of any of the planning documents, discussion papers or minutes of the meetings are available for a small charge (to cover photocopying and mailing) from the secretary, Brigid Cumming, (604) 557-

4252 or from the Regional Planner, Greg Fletcher, (604) 624-2002.

If there are any concerns you wish to discuss, your community contacts are:

Old Massett	John Bennett
Skidegate	Eddie Hans or
	Gilbert Parnell.



ADVERTISING & BUSINESS DIRECTORY

URBAN FEAST '94



Last year's Urban Feast was such a great success that the Urban Haida Committee has decided to do it again this year. This was a great event to bring our culture to the Urban Haidas. Everyone had an incredible feeling after it was all over and we wish to carry on this feeling of community. We've decided to have it at a larger place since the last event was such a great success, and the dates and location have been determined by availability. We hope that many people can participate in reconnecting our families.

We're open to food donations. We will have more information after the contact people are notified. Please contact Jim Edenshaw at 255-9759 if you wish to be a part of the working committee. Howa!

URBAN FEAST '94
NOVEMBER 18 & 19, 1994
SQUAMISH CIVIC CENTRE



Ernest Gray has recently returned to Old Massett and has established his training and business consulting business in the Old Massett House. The business Haida Kloo (Haida Canoe) will complete business plans, feasibility studies, and train for small business skills.

*

Haida Kloo also offers seminars across Canada for community development & management training for economic development officers.

*

If you are interested or need advice on how to start a new business, feel free to call. We are here to serve Haida Gwaii.

1-800-263-0983

Tel 604-626-3830
P.O.Box 1000,

Fax 1-800-717-8611
Masset, B.C. V0T 1M0

CHN COMMITTEES

You Can Help!



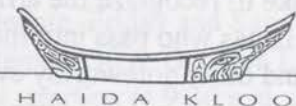
The Haida Nation will negotiate a formal treaty with the governments of Canada and BC. Haida's now and in the future will be affected. Your input and interest is vitally important.

Contact the CHN for information on meeting locations and dates of CHN Committees

COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION



BE INFORMED!



ERNEST H. GRAY
Management Consultant

P.O. Box 1000, Massett, B.C. V0T 1M0
Tel 604-626-3830 • 1-800-263-0983 • Fax 1-800-717-8611

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Haida Language Workshop
September 30 & October 1, 1994
9:30 am Daily
Skidegate

Haida Fisheries Planning Workshop
September 30 & October 1, 1994
10:00 am Daily
Senior Citizens Centre, Old Massett

Haida Forestry Committee Workshop
October 1, 1994
1:00 pm
CHN Skidegate Office

CHN Third Quarterly
October 3 & 4, 1994
9:30 am Daily
Old Massett Community Hall

CHN/BC/CAN
Treaty Negotiations
October 5 & 6, 1994
9:30 am Daily
Skidegate Community Hall

Urban Feast
November 18 & 19, 1994
Vancouver



Haida Laas: Mail List & Subscriptions

Haida Laas is published bi-weekly by the Council of the Haida Nation and is distributed free to Haida's through the CHN Mail List. If you are Haida and would like to be on the mail list, or/and you would like to make a donation, please write, fax or phone Gilbert Parnell, Communications Officer, at:

Council of the Haida Nation
P.O. Box 98
Skidegate, Haida Gwaii
V0T 1S1
Ph: 604-559-4468
Fx: 604-559-8951

If you are not Haida and would like to subscribe and donate to Haida Laas, please send cheque or money order for \$35 (cdn) to:

Haida Tribal Society
P.O. Box 589
Masset, Haida Gwaii
V0T 1M0

PASSAGES

The Council of the Haida Nation, through Haida Laas, would like to recognize the arrival of new Haidas into the world, Haidas who pass into the great beyond, potlatches, marriages and other noteworthy events. Please forward information to:

Gilbert Parnell
Communications Director
Haida Laas
Council of the Haida Nation

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