



IN-TOWN
REDISCOVERY
CLAN DINNER
pg 13



JOINT REVIEW
PANEL HEARINGS
in OLD MASSETT
pg 2, 8, 9,
10, 11



RALLY: SAY NO
TO ENBRIDGE
pg 5

HAIDA LAAS

Newsletter of the Haida Nation

February 2012



I-r: Eve Hansen & Isaac, Deena Manitobenis & Bella Rose, and Mallory Russ & Harvey all attended the **ReDiscovery Clan Dinner** in Old Massett with their young children.

See story page 13



HAIDA LAAS

NEWSLETTER of the HAIDA NATION

published by the

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YOU ARE IMPORTANT!

**Please attend the JOINT REVIEW PANEL HEARINGS
 and witness contemporary and oral history
 being presented to the Panel by our people
 and our neighbours on Haida Gwaii.**

The Hearings are part of a federal government review of the proposed Enbridge oil pipeline project that would run from Alberta to Kitimat.

In addition to the pipeline, the proposed project would require over 200 oil tankers a year to circumnavigate Haida Gwaii to transport the oil to Asian and US markets.

Old Massett Community Hall

February 28 & 29, 2012

9:00 am

- lunch provided -

EVERYONE WELCOME

PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to attend these Hearings there are also two days of Hearings scheduled for Skidegate, March 21 and 22.

Photo - Allan Wilson

The Girls Group's Big Adventure

The Girls Group, which has been running since March 2011, is a club for girls who live in Old Massett and Massett and are between the ages of 13-18. Lia Hetherington, Child & Youth Counsellor with the Haida Gwaii Society for Community Peace (HGSCP), runs the club, which meets every Wednesday, after school, at the Counselling House in Massett.

These days, the Girls Group has been busy planning and fundraising for eight of its members to travel to the Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference in Nanaimo. The conference is a great place for youth to learn about things like health, language, culture, environment, employment, education, and sports and recreation, and is held annually during the school spring-break.

Last year, the conference was held in Prince Rupert, so many youth in our community were able to attend and had a great time meeting other young people from all around the province. This year, it was taking a lot more effort to get the girls and two chaperones to Nanaimo, but when Success by Six awarded the group a grant in support of the trip, the girls knew the trip would become a reality.

This is a big trip. The group will be off-

Island for ten days and take the ferry from Skidegate to Prince Rupert, from Prince Rupert to Port Hardy, and then drive to Nanaimo. Due to the ferry schedule, the group will have an extra two days before the conference begins, so they have planned a short detour to Alert Bay.

The staff at the U'mista Cultural Centre in Alert Bay has generously agreed to open the museum on a Sunday and give the youth a tour. The girls are also interested in visiting the residential school at Alert Bay, which many Haidas attended in the past. To prepare for their visit to the school, Sandra Dan, a counsellor at the Haida Health Centre, recently shared with the Girls Group her knowledge about the residential school system.

The Girls Group has been working hard to reach their fundraising goal of \$2000.00. They have had sales tables at the Co-op, bingos at the Elders' Center, and are selling anti-violence-against-women t-shirts to make their goal. The HGSCP and the Gwaii Trust Travel Assistance Program, among others, have also supported the Girls Group trip. If you would like to contribute to the trip or find out more about it, please call Lia Hetherington, 626-6057.



Super Fan Aaliyeh Arens

Aaliyeh Arens kept the Skidegate Saints pumped and focussed at the All-Native Basketball Tournament in Prince Rupert. See story - next page.

Skidegate Band Council Election Results

Skidegate Band Council elections were held Wednesday, February 15 and of the 19 hopeful candidates seven were successful. A full list of candidates and the votes they received is posted to < haidanation.ca >.

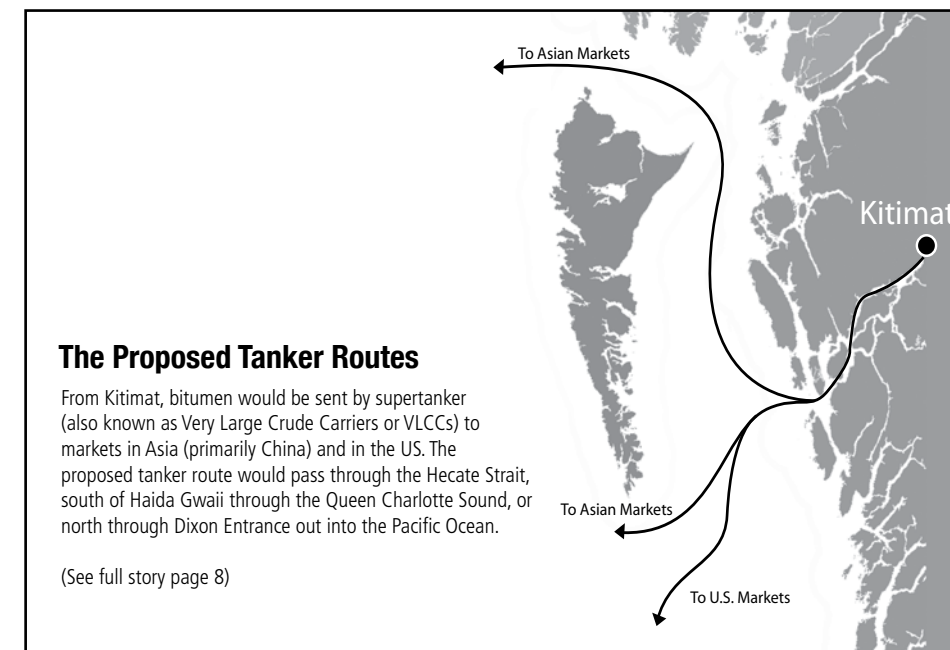
To the office of Councillor the following were elected:

- Duane Alsop - 195 votes
- James Cowpar - 230
- Lyndale George - 287
- Remi Levesque - 298
- Godfrey Williams - 163
- Robert Williams - 236
- Billy Yovanovich - 292

Robert Mills was acclaimed to the position of Chief Councillor.

Did You Know?

Did you know there are 1,068 different salmon populations on Haida Gwaii – 11 percent of the total known variation in Pacific salmon stocks in Canada, in just 1/100th of their range. Some salmon are believed to have inhabited local streams during and prior to the last ice age.



The Proposed Tanker Routes

From Kitimat, bitumen would be sent by supertanker (also known as Very Large Crude Carriers or VLCCs) to markets in Asia (primarily China) and in the US. The proposed tanker route would pass through the Hecate Strait, south of Haida Gwaii through the Queen Charlotte Sound, or north through Dixon Entrance out into the Pacific Ocean.

(See full story page 8)

Stoked Saints bring home the hardware

B-Ball in Prince Rupert unites the coast



Skidegate Senior Saints took top honours at the All-Native Basketball Tournament held in Prince Rupert this month. Left - Right: Neil Alsop, Dan Burton, Richard Fenton, Wade Collinson, Desi Collinson, Darcy Pearson, Dave Wahl, Duane Alsop, Jason Alsop, Jared Casey, Len Arens, Josh (Scoops) Wesley, Dustin Cross. In front: Levi Burton, and flag-bearer and Super Fan, Aaliyeh Arens

by Jason Alsop

The All-Native Basketball Tournament is different from all other basketball tournaments. It's an opportunity to represent your community and yourself with your hustle, heart and spirit to win, and to succeed for your family, community and nation.

This year, the Skidegate Senior Saints did something they have never done before, by winning the Senior Division championship in convincing fashion over their rivals, the Ahousat Suns (107-81), bringing home the championship to the people of Haida Gwaii.

On their way to the finals, the Saints had to get by the New Aiyansh YMCA (107-72), the Prince Rupert Friendship House Chiefs (81-58) and their tough brothers from the north: the Old Massett Haida Raiders (87-67) in the semi-final bracket. The championship game was the second

match-up between Skidegate and Ahousat; the teams had squared off earlier in the quarter-finals where the Saints emerged, after a hard fought battle, with a 92-79 win.

With an average margin of victory of 23.5 points per game throughout the tournament, the Saints became the team to beat, with defending champs, Hydaburg, unable to attend this year's tournament. In the words of point guard, Desi Collinson, who was the tournament's Most Valuable Player and Mr. Hustle award-winner, this year's team had "too much juice!" for the competition. Teams struggled to keep up with the Saints pressure-zone defence, which was anchored by 6' 11" center, Jared Casey, and the "run-and-gun" offence implemented by first-year Saints coach, Dave Wahl.

Throughout the tournament the Saints dominated the floor with their team effort—

that effort paid off and was highlighted in the awards ceremony, with shooting guard, Darcy Pearson, taking home an all-star and high-scorer award (average 26 points per game), and center, Jared Casey, named to the all-star team. Long-time Saint, Wade Collinson, was named the tournament's top sixth man.

For the Saints, it was a year-long community effort just to get to Prince Rupert, but it was this community spirit that super-charged the Saints to victory. Following the big win, this sentiment was echoed by point guard, Desi Collinson, when he said, "This win is not just about basketball – it's about everybody from Skidegate and Haida Gwaii. They represent community. And it's more than a championship — it's about communities uniting." •

Photo: Yvette Adams

The Wall – Prince Rupert rally lays the foundation

by Valine Crist

On February 4th, the Gitga'at – people from the Hartley Bay region – hosted one of the largest rallies to date opposing the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline project.

In an inspiring demonstration of unity to protect the coast from oil supertankers, the event brought together First Nations, elected officials, authors, and blues artists, among many others, in a stand against Enbridge's proposed pipeline and the oil tankers that would ply the coastal waters.

Representatives from the Gitga'at, Haisla, Tsimshian, Heiltsuk, Cree, Yinka Dene Alliance, Metlakatla, Lax Kw'alaams, Gitksan, Wet'suwet'en, and Haida all attended. Marching from Mariner's Park to the Civic Center, a stream of over 1,000 supporters from across the province took over the streets in a symbolic demonstration, declaring: "This is our territory and we do not consent to any pipelines or supertankers threatening our way of life."

At around noon, everyone settled into the auditorium at the Prince Rupert Civic Centre. After a welcoming from Prince Rupert Mayor Jack Mussallem, MLA Gary Coons, and Chiefs from the Metlakatla, Lax Kw'alaams, and Gitga'at, and a powerful performance by the Gitga'at Cultural Dancers, the day's events officially opened.

As the afternoon continued, the audience was honoured to hear the song, *Shallow Waters*, performed by 11-year-old Ta'Kaiya Blaney, a member of the Sliammon. Wise beyond her years, Ta'Kaiya opened with a speech, saying, "We have the power to draw that line and say 'NO!' This is the time – it's now or never." Following her performance, a drum was passed around to help raise money for Ta'Kaiya to attend the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro this summer.

Andrew Nikiforuk took the stage around 5:00 pm. Nikiforuk is an award-winning author and investigative journalist who has written on a number of contemporary issues, from energy to economics (see *Tar*

The Wall - continued next page



Photo - Mike Ambach



Photo - Mike Ambach



Top: The Civic Centre in Prince Rupert was filled with people and energy.

Middle: Throughout the rally, drummers, singers and dancers performed.

Left: Ta'Kaiya Blaney was presented a paddle by President of the Haida Nation Guujaaw to acknowledge the work she has done to bring attention to the proposed pipeline project. The paddle was presented on behalf of all First Nations.

The Wall - from page 5

Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent 2009). Nikiforuk spoke about the rapid development of the tar sands and believes that Enbridge's Northern Gateway represents the 1% of the country's population, not the 99% – referring to the slogan of the recent global Occupy movement. He also asked the assembled to think about how we can do things differently and move beyond our reliance on oil.

In the evening, Coastal Programs Campaigner for Sierra Club BC, Caitlyn Vernon, spoke candidly to why she is involved with this movement to stop the pipeline and where she finds inspiration. "It may sound cliché, but one person can make a difference," she said.

Caitlyn went on to note that she speaks to many people who are not activists or environmentalists, people who have never been involved with any campaigns before. People who "don't normally get involved" are coming out on the pipeline and tanker issue because they realize the very real threat that the Northern Gateway proposal puts in front of us. Ms Vernon said that there are 75 coastal jobs at risk for every one job that Enbridge offers with the project.

Another of the evening's highlights was Rafe Mair—former MLA, Minister of Environment, and radio host. Mair is an outspoken advocate of free speech and the environment, and has been speaking tirelessly against the project.

Mr. Mair, who is a very powerful speaker, said, "More than ever before, we have to all be there and stand there and be prepared to go to jail if necessary." The 80-year-old went on to state that he would be there if a bulldozer ever came to start construction for the project. Quoting Gerald Amos – a former Chief Councillor of the Haisla Nation – Mr. Mair asserted that the pipeline, "is not going to happen, and we'll all be there to make sure it doesn't".

The Wall - continued next page



Photo - Ian McAllister



Photo - Pat Moss



Photo - Pat Moss



Photo - Pat Moss



Photo - Pat Moss

The 13-straight-hours of performances and speeches was an event that brought together a diverse range of people and communities. Over all, the voices that were heard carried several important messages:

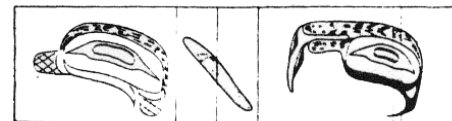
First, the words "fight" and "battle" against Enbridge came up time and time again, and, sometimes it feels like this *is* a war. Those opposing the project have used the analogy of David and Goliath and it was clear at this gathering that the people working to protect lands and livelihoods are energetic and intelligent.

Second, speak about this project with absolute certainty. Every speaker stated, without hesitation, that this proposal will be stopped.

"Thanks to you, your spirit, your energy, your commitment and determination, these tankers will not pass through the Douglas Channel and these pipelines will not be built," said Andrew Nikiforuk speaking at the gathering.

Third, the Enbridge Northern Gateway proposal is not only a First Nations' issue, it is also an environmental issue, a social issue, and an economic issue. It is a local, a national, and an international issue. The federal government is determined to push the proposal through as a project "in the national interest", but this diverse group of people at the march and gathering demonstrated that it is not in *their* best interest and there is a growing movement to protect what *is* in their best interest.

This rally demonstrated the wall of First Nations standing against the proposal, the diversity of people opposing the proposal, and the power that this opposition has. The rally reaffirmed everything that we are doing on Haida Gwaii to stop the project and reinforced that there is great support for that position from across the province, and, across Canada. •



DID YOU KNOW: Approximately 150 First Nations and Band Councils have publicly declared their opposition to the proposed Enbridge pipeline project.

- Council of the Haida Nation
- Old Massett Village Council
- Skidegate Band Council
- Git'gaat First Nation
- Metlakatla First Nation
- Haisla First Nation
- Heiltsuk (Bella Bella)
- Wuikinuxv Nation
- Kitasoo/Xaixais Nation
- Ts'il Kaz Koh First Nation
- Tl'azt'en Nation
- Saik'uz First Nation
- Nadleh Whu't'en First Nation
- Nak'azdli Band
- Takla Lake First Nation
- Wet'suwet'en First Nation
- Gitanyow First Nation
- Kispiox Band Council
- Kitkatla First Nation
- Lax Kw'alaams First Nation
- Namgis First Nation
- Mamallikulla Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em First Nation
- Tlowitsis Nation
- Da'naxda'xw Awaetlatla First Nation
- Gwa'sala'-Nakwaxda'xw First Nation
- Kwiahah First Nation
- K'omoks First Nation
- Kwakiutl Indian Band
- Ditidaht
- Huu-ay-aht
- Hupacasath
- Tshesahst First Nation
- Uchucklesaht
- Ahousaht
- Hesquiaht
- Tla-o-qui-aht
- Toquaht
- Ucluelet
- Ehattesaht
- Kyuquot/Cheklesahht
- Mowachat/Muchalaht
- Nuchatlaht
- Kwicksutaineuk-ah-kwa-mish First Nation
- Tsawataineuk First Nation
- Gwawaenuk First Nation
- Nuxalk First Nation
- Swan River First Nation
- Canoe Creek Band
- Lake Babine First Nation
- Adams Lake Indian Band (Sexqeltqin)
- Alexis Creek First Nations (Tsi Del Del)
- Bonaparte First Nation
- Boston Bar First Nation
- Canim Lake Band (Tsq'escenemc)
- Chawathil First Nation
- Soowahlie
- Sumas
- Yakwekwioose First Nation
- Coldwater First Nation
- Nicomien
- Nooaitch
- Siska Indian Band
- Shackan
- Cook's Ferry First Nation
- Alkali Lake Indian Band/Esketemc First Nation
- Spallumcheen Indian Band (Splats'in First Nation)
- Williams Lake Band (T'exelcemc)
- Neskonlith Indian Band (Skatsin)
- Skeetchestn Indian Band
- Kwantlen First Nation
- Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation
- Red Bluff Indian Band (Lhtako Dene Nation)
- Toosey First Nation (Tl'esqox First Nation)
- Ulkatcho First Nation
- Xeni Gwet'in First Nation
- Musqueam Indian Band
- Soda Creek Indian Band (Cmetem)
- Tzeachten First Nation
- Upper Nicola Band (Spaxomin)
- Okanagan Indian Band
- Penticton Indian Band
- Fort Nelson First Nation
- Cape Mudge
- Campbell River Indian Band
- Lyackson First Nation
- Quatsino First Nation
- Columbia Lake Band (Akisq'nuk First Nation)
- St. Mary's Band (aqamni k)
- Tobacco Plains Band (a-kanuxunik)
- Lower Kootenay First Nation (Ya-qannu-ki)
- Shuswap Indian Band
- Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
- Idaho Ktunaza (a-kaq aha xu, Bonners Ferry)
- Montana Ktunaxa (Ksanka, Elmo)
- Anderson Lake (N'quatqua)
- Samahquam
- Douglas (Xa'xtsa)
- Skatin
- Bridge River Indian Band (Nkwisten)
- Fountain First Nation (Xaxl'ip/Cácl'ep)
- Mount Currie Band (Lil'wat)
- Lillooet Band (Tl'it'q'et First Nation)
- Cayoose Creek First Nation (Sekw'el'was)
- Seton Lake First Nation (Chalath/Tsal'alh)
- Pavilion First Nation (Ts'kw'aylacw)
- Deninu Kue First Nation
- Salt River First Nation
- Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Dettah)
- Yellowknives Dene First Nation (Ndilo)
- Smith Landing First Nation
- Lutsel K'e Dene Band
- Aklavik Indian Band
- Inuvik Native Band
- Gwichya Gwich'in Council
- Tetlit Gwich'in Council
- Deline First Nation
- Behdzi Ahda First Nation
- K'asho Got'ine Dene Band
- Tulita Band Council
- Sambaa K'e Dene Band
- Liidlii Kue First Nation
- Jean Marie River First Nation
- Nahanni Butte Dene Band
- Acho Dene Koe First Nation
- Deh Gah Got'ie First Nation
- Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation
- Hay River Dene Reserve
- Pehdzeh Ki Dene Band
- St'ueh Nda First Nation
- Begade Shotagotine
- Behchoko Community Government
- Whati Community Government
- Wekwee'ti Community Government
- Gameti Community Government
- Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
- Lubicon Lake Indian Nation
- Blood Tribe (Kainai)
- Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation
- Alexander First Nation
- Whitefish Lake First Nation
- Enoch Cree Nation
- Samson Cree First Nation
- Sucker Creek First Nation
- Montana First Nation
- Louis Bull Tribe (Cree)
- Osoyoos Indian Band
- Kelly Lake First Nation
- Nisga'a Nation

What to expect at the Joint Review Panel Community Hearings

Over the past month many people on the Islands have been in deep conversation about the proposed Northern Gateway project – talking at the grocery store, through social media, hearing it on the news, and consequently thinking about the possible environmental, social, and economic impacts of the project.

With the Joint Review Panel arriving on Haida Gwaii this month, the question, “Why are they coming here?” has come up a few times and probably led some people to wonder, what could a pipeline running through BC mean for us here on Haida Gwaii?

The Joint Review Panel has been tasked, by the federal government, to conduct an assessment of the potential environmental effects of the proposed Northern Gateway Project. The project is to build two pipelines from Bruderheim,

Alberta, through BC, and terminating at Kitimat. Once the review process has been completed, the JRP will submit their report to the Minister of Environment, Peter Kent, who will make it available to the public.

The Project in Four Bullets

- In 2006, Enbridge Inc. announced their proposal to build the Northern Gateway pipeline. In the years since, the proposal has met several delays and growing opposition.
- Enbridge proposes one pipeline to transport condensate to the Alberta tar sands, from Kitimat. At the tar sands, the condensate would be used to dilute bitumen (“bitumen” is a combination of sand, clay, water, and petroleum) to a liquid

that would then be sent back to Kitimat through a second pipeline. In combination, these two pipelines would transport well over 500,000 barrels of diluted bitumen and close to 200,000 barrels of condensate each day between Alberta and Kitimat.

- From Kitimat, bitumen would be sent by supertanker (also known as Very Large Crude Carriers or VLCCs) to markets in Asia (primarily China) and in the US. The proposed tanker route would pass through the Hecate Strait, south of Haida Gwaii through the Queen Charlotte Sound, or north through Dixon Entrance out into the Pacific Ocean.

JRP - continued next page

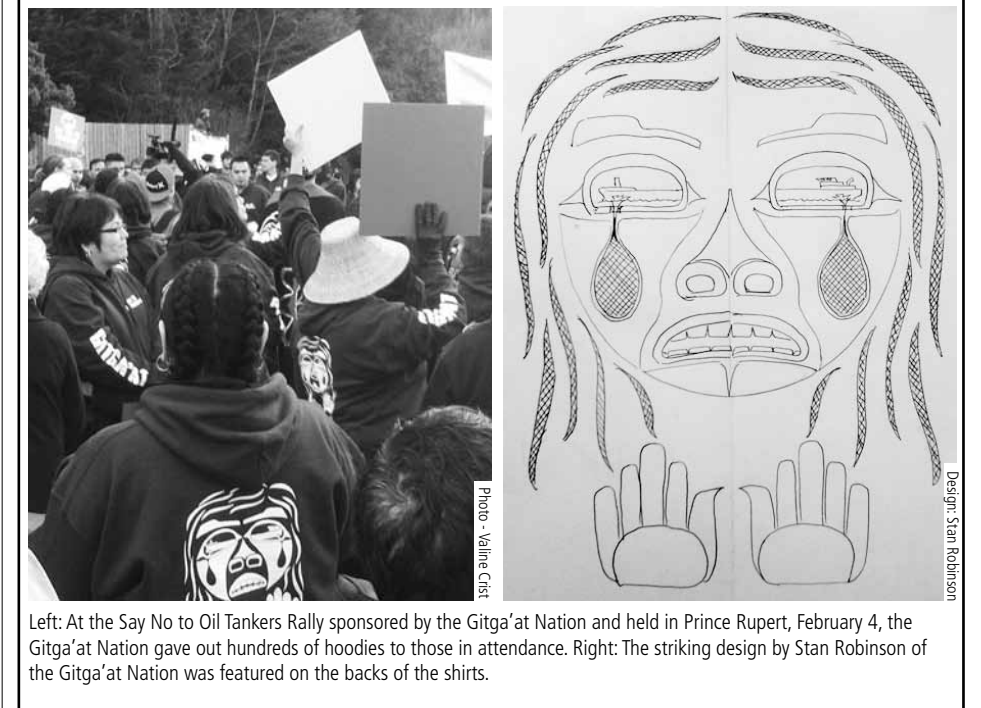
- Given the above scenario, supertankers would navigate around Haida Gwaii more than 500 times each year.

The federal government supports “expanding our oil markets”, which the Prime Minister has made public on a number of occasions. Harper and Enbridge CEO Pat Daniels were in China, earlier this month, promoting the potential of an expanded Canadian energy sector. According to Stephen Harper, transporting 525,000 barrels of bitumen each day across the Rocky Mountains, across some 800 salmon-bearing streams, and through high-risk avalanche areas, to Kitimat, is “in the national interest”. Minister of Natural Resources Joe Oliver is also a vocal supporter of the proposed Northern Gateway project.

While Harper and Oliver have started talking about streamlining the Federal Review Process to become more “efficient”, others are looking into challenging various aspects of the Northern Gateway project through the law courts.

First Nations’ rights are protected under the Canadian Constitution and recognized internationally through the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Important to remember is the fact that most First Nations in British Columbia have never ceded their respective lands by treaty or other agreement. Approximately 150 First Nations spanning BC’s coast, to the Northwest Territories, Alberta, and south into the United States have publicly opposed the Northern Gateway project.

The proposed pipeline has motivated organizations such as CoAST (Communities Against Supertankers) on Haida Gwaii and the Douglas Channel Watch in Kitimat. These organizations join Coastal First Nations, Friends of Wild Salmon, Living Oceans Society, ForestEthics, West Coast Environmental Law, Dogwood Initiative, Sierra Club BC, and many First Nations across BC.



Left: At the Say No to Oil Tankers Rally sponsored by the Gitga’at Nation and held in Prince Rupert, February 4, the Gitga’at Nation gave out hundreds of hoodies to those in attendance. Right: The striking design by Stan Robinson of the Gitga’at Nation was featured on the backs of the shirts.

How the Joint Review Panel works

The proceedings of the Joint Review Panel are a formal process and have a number of rules and guidelines. Here are some frequently asked questions and answers:

What is the Enbridge Northern Gateway Joint Review Panel (JRP)?

As a result of environmental concerns and public questions regarding the Northern Gateway proposal, a federal review of the project and its potential impacts started in 2010. The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and the National Energy Board oversee the review, which includes Hearings being held in a number of communities throughout BC and Alberta. Following the review process the Joint Review Panel will make a decision on whether to approve the project or not.

Who are the Joint Review Panel members?

Sheila Leggett is the vice-chair of the National Energy Board. She’s served on a number of government review panels, has a Masters Degree in biology, and lives in Calgary, Alberta.

Kenneth Bateman is a lawyer and member of the National Energy board. He has been involved in a number of pipeline hearings, has a Masters Degree in International Business Management, and lives in Calgary, Alberta.

Hans Matthews is a geologist with experience in Aboriginal community development in the mining industry. He is from the Wahnapiatae First Nation and lives in Ontario.

What kind of recommendations will the panel make?

The Joint Review Panel will make their recommendation to the federal government based on information they receive throughout the review. Most often, the review panel will propose mitigation methods to offset environmental impacts. The review panel

How it works - continued next page

The Joint Review Panel Members

- full biographies of the panel members can be found on the web by searching “Northern Gateway JRP”



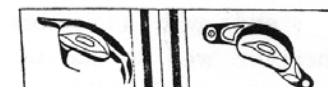
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How it works - from page 9

could also recommend substantial changes to the proposal. Or, the panel can reject the proposal.

Does the JRP have final say in this review process?

If the JRP's review determines that the proposal should be rejected, the federal government cannot go against that recommendation without introducing new legislation, so the panel's decision does carry a lot of weight.

Who will be at the Community Hearings?

The Community Hearings are open to the public – everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Hereditary Leaders, Women Held in High-Esteem, elected officials, and the three-member Joint Review Panel will also be at the Hearings.

What's the daily schedule for the Hearings?

The Hearings will begin with an opening ceremony and an official welcoming. After a brief introduction from the panel, Oral Evidence will begin and carry on all day. The evidence being given by community members will consist of traditional knowledge and/or personal experience. The public is welcome to come and go throughout the day.

What is the role of the Joint Review Panel and how will it operate?

The role of the panel is to listen. Its members are not permitted to answer any questions from intervenors or the public. The panel Chair, Sheila Leggett, will sometimes move to ensure that the Hearings are on track, but, over all, the panel does not interact with intervenors or the public.

Who will speak at the Hearings on Haida Gwaii?

There are approximately 12 individuals and organizations preparing to present Oral Evidence at the first round of Hearings in Old Massett and Skidegate. A second round of Hearings will be held on the Islands at a later date to give members of the public an opportunity to be heard. A final round of Hearings for final arguments will be held in April 2013.

Intervenors include the CHN, Old Massett Village Council, Skidegate Band Council, Village of Queen Charlotte, and Haida Gwaii CoAST.

Who will be presenting at this first round of Hearings on Haida Gwaii?

Each of the intervenors can get up and speak for themselves, or they can call in any number of speakers to talk about how the proposed project would impact local communities. Each intervenor has been allotted between 15 minutes and three hours to present their oral evidence to the panel.

What kind of evidence has CHN submitted so far?

CHN has been working with Coastal First Nations and White Raven Law to prepare both written and oral evidence. Over 60 documents that describe our unique biological and marine ecosystems were submitted by the CHN. The Joint Review Panel will read and consider this information before arriving to hear oral evidence this month.

I registered to make an Oral Statement. When do I speak to the panel about my views on the proposed project?

For people who registered to make Oral Statements, the Joint Review Panel will return this spring or summer to hear from the public. Over 300 Islanders registered to make Oral Statements. They will each be given ten minutes to speak directly to the panel about their views of the proposed project.

What if I missed the registration deadline but still want to have my opinions considered in the JRP process?

Everyone is encouraged to have their voices heard by the JRP. If you missed the deadline to register to make an Oral Statement, you can still write a Letter of Comment to the panel. These letters can be as technical, or as personal, or as long or short as you like. The deadline to submit a Letter of Comment is August 31, 2012. Check the JRP website at < <http://gatewaypanel.review-examen.gc.ca/clf-nsi/hm-eng.html> > for details.

Preparing and Presenting your Oral Evidence

Generally speaking, this first round of the review is for First Nations from across BC and Alberta to give Oral Evidence, though there are other individuals and groups who are also registered to present on this round.

Oral evidence is information, provided by intervenors, that cannot be submitted in writing. This includes:

- oral traditional knowledge
- personal knowledge and experiences that show how the proposed project would affect you or your community

Before presenting your evidence, you will be sworn in on a bible. If you don't want to swear on a bible, you can bring in another sacred item with you to use.

- You can tell the panel your point of view, but your evidence must focus on information that supports your views.
- Your views about the *decision* the panel should make, and your opinions of the proposed project, should wait until the hearings in the Spring/Summer.
- Your final arguments in your presentation, this round, can include your *position* on the decision that the panel should make and the reason why your evidence supports your position.

The final decision that the panel makes on the project will include the environmental and socio-economic effects of the project, the significance of the effects, and, if the proposal should be approved, on what terms and conditions. •

A long but rewarding journey

by Leigh-Anna Marks

It has been a long journey, but I am only a few months away from completing my Bachelor of Nursing Degree with a Psychology Minor at the Hawaii Pacific University in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

I would not be at this point in my life without all the support I have received from my family, friends, the Massett community, my Hawaii ohana, and the Fernandez Earle Scholarship Foundation (FESF).

The opportunity I was given by FESF has been such a life-changing experience. I have come to know what it means to be a global citizen, I have learned to be a part of a community but also be of independent mind, and I have learned so many new things about the many cultures in Hawaii, which locals call a melting pot of culture. Hawaii not only has the Hawaiian and Polynesian cultures but also Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, and so many more that I've learned about culturally, and from a health care perspective.

In its own way, Hawaii has become home to me. It has supported me through the thick-and-thin of nursing school even if it was just being able to stick my toes in the sand for a few minutes after a horrible day. I am excited to be completing my post-secondary education but at the same time it is sad to see this chapter coming to an end in my life. The FESF has been such a huge part of my life and made such a big difference to me and other students on Haida Gwaii – I want more students to have the experience I did and be able to pursue anything they dream of.

With that, I'd like to ask you all to support the Fernandez Earle Scholarship Foundation by donating to or attending the fundraiser to be held on March 8th from 6-9pm at the Haida Heritage Centre in Skidegate. The fundraiser will be a silent auction and donations would be greatly appreciated. Please contact my mother, Tammy Jones, at home (250.626.3783) to donate.

By supporting this foundation you help to give a secondary-school graduate a full-ride scholarship to the Hawaii Pacific University once every two years. For more information on FESF, go to their website: <http://fernandezearle.com/>



Leigh-Anna Marks

The JRP Hearings Timeline

- **January 10, 2012:** Community Hearings began in Kitamaat
- **February 28 and 29:** Hearings in Old Massett
- **March 21 and 22:** Hearings in Skidegate
- **Spring/Summer 2012:** More **Community Hearings** on Haida Gwaii to hear 10-minute **Oral Statements** from the general public
- **August 31, 2012:** Deadline to submit **Letters of Comment**
- **April 2013:** Final Hearings – Final Arguments

Clam diggers along North Beach - Haida Fisheries

Youth Leadership – thinking as one

by Kelsey Pelton

On January 8, 2012, 13 youths from Old Massett, Masset, Port Clements, Tlell, Skidegate, Queen Charlotte and Sandspit came together for the first meeting of the Gwaii Trust Youth Board.

The directors and alternates of this new group are: Preston Sloan, Mike Berg, Chelsy McDavid, Brandon Gibbard, Niisii Guujaaw, Abigail Mitchell, Skil Jaadee White, Jaadgaljuus Yakgujanaas, Shaylene Abrahams, Chloe Good, Kade Kricheldorf, Ian Benoit and Jesse Condrotte. These youth are representing Band and Village Councils, and Youth Councils from their communities.

Part of the Gwaii Trust Youth Board's mandate is to decide how \$150,000.00 will be spent by August 2012. The board was told to not only think of their individual community when making decisions, but to think of Haida Gwaii as one big community.

The Gwaii Trust Board, which was also at the meeting, presented some goals that it would try to achieve with the new Youth Board and youth on-Island. The goals are: 100% high-school graduation; for every teen on-Island to attend a wilderness camp such as Swan Bay Rediscovery; to give out two *Excellence in Leadership* awards; put 15 students per year in an apprentice or educational mentorship program; support a teen centre in every community; and, to have an Island-wide Youth Forum in the spring.

At the meeting, the discussion was around ideas that could help achieve these goals, and how to spend the money in a way that helped all communities and all youth. The GT Youth Board decided to designate individuals to do research about the



The newly-formed Gwaii Trust Youth Board will be looking at proposals from youth on how to spend \$150,000 in funding. Front row, left to right: Michael Berg, Chelsy McDavid, Jesse Condrotte, Kade Kricheldorf, Brandon Gibbard, Preston Sloan, Ian Benoit. Back row, left to right: Abigail Mitchell, Chloe Good, Niisii Guujaaw, Skil Jaadee White, Jaadgaljuus Yakgujanaas, Shaylene Abrahams

potential investments and come back with information to help shortlist the options of how the Youth Board will spend the money. Those in attendance also voted to set priorities about the things they felt should be done first.

Some great ideas were put forward at the meeting: Chelsy McDavid thought that it would be a good idea to have transportation from Sandspit, where she lives, to attend the youth centre in Skidegate; Abigail Mitchell, from Tlell, suggested that there be counselling to help with the goal of increasing the graduation rate; Brandon Gibbard of Skidegate thought the idea of funding every teen on-Island to attend a Haida Gwaii wilderness camp was great.

He feels that everyone should have the opportunity he had to learn more about Haida culture and have the experience of visiting Gwaii Haanas.

The Youth Council intends to meet again in March and May. At those meetings they will be looking at applications from individuals with great ideas that could be used to create programs and more activities for youth.

If you have an idea as to what the Gwaii Trust Youth Council could do to make Haida Gwaii a better place for youth, submit your idea and application by contacting any member of the Gwaii Trust Youth Council. Their email addresses are posted at < www.gwaiitrust.com >.

www.haidanation.ca
 programs : haida laas : directory : links : diplomacy : agreements

ReDiscovering Ourselves In-Town

by Florence Lockyer

ReDiscovery Coordinator, Vince Collison, and Youth Coordinator, Harmony Williams, organized a Community Clans' Dinner for Old Massett this past January 31. Of the dozen Clans situated at the north end of Haida Gwaii, most had a good representation at the dinner of about 150 people.

The Clans' Dinner was planned to involve the community in decision-making and program planning for the newly initiated In-Town ReDiscovery Program that will deliver programs and services to our youth. The Summer Culture Camp held annually at Taalung Stlung is the inspiration for this new year-round, in-town endeavour.

The idea for the dinner was to bring positive attention to the program and the boundless possibilities of in-town activities. The ReDiscovery Society still operates the cultural camp at Taalung Stlung, and, last year, the Haida Health Center delivered the programs at the camp. The new in-town programming is additional to the summer camp. The Old Massett Village Council is now managing the programs in both locations.

The dinner was also organized to inform the community that the program has received financial support from Haida Child and Family Services. Part of the Haida Child and Family Services mandate is to support community initiatives aimed at enhancing children's lives and a financial contribution from HCFSS breathed new life into the ReDiscovery Program.

Rather than just promoting the program with posters and notices, and designing the program without community input, it was decided that the launch of this new phase would be through a Clans' Dinner so that all clans and community members were aware of the importance of this new initiative.

In-town - continued next page



Above: Carrie Carty at the mic, with performers (l-r) Devon Marks, Sheldon Smith, Kendall Drager, Janelle Edgars, Ryleigh Brennan, and Steven Parnell. Below: Dayaang addresses family and friends under the watchful eye of Addison Bell (Dayaang's great-granddaughter) and niece, Sandy Gagnon.



In-town - from page 13

The summer camp has operated for 30 years and many adult community members attended the camp and now their children are attending it. Many remember seeing or feeling the accomplishment of being Stone Ribs and successfully doing an overnight solo, and as a consequence being filled with Haida pride. With the new funding, all of our youth aged 9-12 will now be able to experience that pride, here in the village, before they attend the cultural camp in the summer.

The dinner began with an opening by MCs Elizabeth Moore and Vince Collison. Beef, deer and seafood stews were prepared by the Adult Day Program. Clan members decorated their tables with crests and regalia and also brought desserts. Each table served themselves at the dinner.

After dinner Hereditary Leaders Dayaang, *Donald Bell*; Giteewans, *Vernon Brown*; Thasi, *Ken Edgars*, Ihldiinii, *Alfred Davidson*; and Gya awhlans, *Roy Collison* spoke to those in attendance. Edward Davis spoke for Gya awhlans.

In their speeches many of the Leaders shared similar sentiments:

“It’s good to be here for a happy occasion! It’s great that [our] teachings will be passed on. It’s good to see everyone together for our children. No matter what I do, there is always at least one of my children or grandchildren around to hear and see what I am doing.”

“We need to do this more often – gather for a happy occasion. It’s good to learn about food gathering, weaving, and other cultural activities year round. We need to keep our children busy.”

“We arrived hungry and are leaving full. The soup was good and it’s great that [you] showed up in support of this dinner, and to show support for the Chiefs and clans.”

“The board members of the Haida Child and Family Services were worried about the direction that the Rediscovery program was taking and they offered to help get it going again.”

Following the speeches, the first dance group to perform was the Chief Matthews School Dancers, led by Delbert Smith,



Above: Dressed for the do, Lydia and Sheldon Smith wear their clan crests with distinction. Below: The long-used, hand-made and hand-painted ReDiscovery banner hangs between photo reproductions of the original Jasper Pole.



Carrie Carty and Charlene Edgars. The dancers marched in their own clan banners and sang many, many songs. They also sang the Gambling Sticks song and raised over \$300 for the school’s annual trip to Taalung Stlung.

Following the Chief Matthews School Dancers, many community singers and drummers performed songs with enthusiasm and got the whole hall

involved. It was a wonderful display of community pride in being Haida. The Clan Song was sung as well as the Haaw. aa Song; the cooks and event-coordinator were thanked; and the hall was full to the brim with good energy. For some it was an excellent moment to connect with their spirit and share it – it was a great evening of rediscovering ourselves.

Number 6 in the series – **WORKING ON-ISLAND**

MAY RUSS - from navigator to steerswoman

by Valine Crist

May Russ is a passionate and committed Haida woman. Born and raised on the Islands, she has made a lifelong career of working for – and in – the community of Old Massett. Today, May is Senior Administrator for the Secretariat of the Haida Nation (SHN), and for the past nine years has managed a team that is building and expanding CHN programs.

May is Haida through and through: she *loves* food gathering, especially berry picking, enjoys spending time in her garden, and has a regular exercise practice. Reading – mostly mysteries and biographies – watching hockey, and craftwork are other favourite past times. These activities are some of the ways that she keeps her feet on the ground with her demanding work life, she says. May has two sons from her first marriage, and – with her spouse of thirty years, Stan – a daughter, Eve. But, nothing touches May’s heart more than her seven grandchildren – four boys and three girls, including the newest addition, grandson Isaac, born May 9 of last year.

Before she came to the SHN, May spent twenty-two years at the Old Massett Village Council office. There, she began as a part-time Clerk, moved up to a junior Finance Clerk position, and, after that, became the Finance Clerk. From Finance Clerk she took on the position of Band Administrator, a management position she held for nine years. Today, working for SHN with its associated politics is a “rewarding challenge,” May says, with her dry sense of humour.

Although May does not have a formal post-secondary education, in her early twenties she did complete some post-secondary courses. “I never did get my Grade 12, but I have taken post-secondary courses and received university credits



Senior Administrator for the Secretariat of the Haida Nation, May Russ, knows that hard work pays off and a skill set that includes the ability to organize and problem-solve will serve you well while working in challenging work environments.

“You don’t have to do it the hard way, which is how I did it. If you get the education, that will make a big difference ...” *May Russ*

through a program called Aboriginal Studies,” she said. “You don’t have to do it the hard way, which is how I did it. If you get the education, that will make a big difference – definitely get the education.”

May’s hard work has paid off. Over the years she has learned the skills needed for the jobs she has taken on. Skills, such

as having strong writing skills and a deep understanding of finances and knowledge of bookkeeping, or something as simple as getting along with people, are strengths required in her current position. The ability

May Russ - continued next page

May Russ - from page 15

to organize and *be* organized is something May considers to be of high value.

During our conversation, May pointed out that some people are still confused about the relationship between SHN and CHN. She explains that the CHN is the political body of elected officials representing the Haida Nation at a government-to-government level, and the SHN is the organization responsible for the administrative duties of the CHN. The SHN administers the CHN support staff and CHN programs such as fisheries, forest planning and communications. As Senior Administrator, May's responsibilities include overseeing the operation; meeting with elected officials and Hereditary Leaders; internal and external communications; budgets; and accounting. To do this, "you have to have a really strong ability to organize and to problem-solve," she explained.

As Senior Administrator, May works hard and continues to learn new skills. The position often involves big challenges like preparing for important decisions on behalf of the Nation. When asked what inspires

her, she says, "We're doing it for our kids ... they have to inherit whatever we make for them and it's our challenge to give them the best opportunities we can."

And what is it that the CHN/SHN is leaving behind for following generations? One item is the *Kunst'aa Guu – Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Agreement*, signed in 2011, between the CHN and the province of BC, setting an extraordinary precedent for co-management on Haida Gwaii. "It's a whole new way of doing things, for us," May said. "It's groundbreaking and it's really exciting."

Part of any well-run organization is clear policy, and, in 2009, May dedicated a lot of time and energy, along with CHN Policy Committee, to revise the CHN election regulations. She says that this was a highlight for her and a major piece of work for SHN. Having the Haida Nation adopt the recommendations at the House of Assembly was another highlight in her professional work life, she said.

With an appreciation for administrative process, management systems and organization, May is now working on

the operation and structure of existing CHN programs, with an intention to build those programs from the foundation that has been established. "Our programs are continuing to expand," she said. "These are exciting times and it's fun to be a part of it all." Happily engaged in her work, May encourages others to "get out there, get the training, and look at our organization [for jobs]". Recognizing that youth need to be involved and informed about the type of employment being offered, CHN and SHN are looking for ways to engage motivated and educated Haida youth. "We need so many different people to fill jobs. We need biologists, divers, field workers and, of course, administrators," May exclaims.

CONSIDERING WORK

Recent job postings with the CHN/SHN have included: Summer-student research jobs, Rediscovery Camp coordinators, department managers, a research writer, a community correspondent, and field crew members. Check for employment opportunities at: www.haidanation.ca.



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. •

**Number 7 in the series –
WORKING ON-ISLAND
ERNIE GLADSTONE - a solid influence**



Photo - Jason Shafo

Gwaii Haanas Field Unit Superintendent, Nang Kaa Klaagangs, *Ernie Gladstone*, has spent many years and a lot of effort to get the education and training needed to run Gwaii Haanas.

by Valine Crist

Nang Kaa Klaagangs (The One Who Walks First), *Ernie Gladstone*, is the Field Unit Superintendent for the Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site. Field Unit Superintendent is the top position at Gwaii Haanas and Ernie is responsible for approximately 45 employees who carry out the duties of keeping the Haida Heritage Site and National Park Reserve and the National Marine Conservation Area Reserve running smoothly.

In 1988, after graduating from Queen Charlotte Secondary School, Ernie moved to Nanaimo to attend what is now Vancouver Island University.

“A lot of areas are protected for natural reasons, and others are protected for cultural reasons. Gwaii Haanas is protected for natural and cultural reasons — we bring both of these things together; they’re one and the same here and they’re given equal weight.”

Nang Kaa Klaagangs

“I knew I wanted to get some kind of education, so I began with general studies,” Ernie said, referring to his first year at post-secondary school.

During his second year at school, Ernie realized that he was very interested in

Nang Kaa Klaagangs - continued next page

Nang Ka Klaagangs from page 17

tourism and thought one day he'd start a kayaking business in Gwaii Haanas. But, after taking courses in economics, accounting, human resource management, and statistics, he discovered that it was really business *management* that he enjoyed. When he finished school, Ernie came home with a 2-year diploma in Business Management.

"All of the courses I took in school relate to my current position," Ernie said. "The education I received definitely helped when it came to applying for the position I'm in now."

In 1992, on completion of his Business Management diploma, Ernie moved home and took a job as a deckhand on the Gwaii Haanas supply-and-maintenance vessel *Shearwater*. At the time, he thought it would be a temporary job until he got his tourism business going but with his good performance and skill set, Ernie was soon moved to the maintenance department where he worked with mentor, Tucker Brown. Eventually, Ernie took on the management of the maintenance department.

A few years later, in 1998, Ernie was asked, by Gwaii Haanas management, to conduct a review of the Gwaii Haanas Agreement and, so, took a brief leave from managing the maintenance department. The Agreement is reviewed every five years as part of the Gwaii Haanas management plan and was signed in 1993 after a lengthy battle to protect the area from logging. Recently, the marine area surrounding Gwaii Haanas has also been protected and the management of both areas uses a consensus-based decision-making process that includes representatives of the federal and Haida governments.

Ernie was required to review the entire Agreement and assess each clause, evaluate whether requirements of the Agreement were being met, and identify the progress that had been made. This study provided Ernie with a thorough introduction and understanding of the unique management system and technical operations of Gwaii Haanas. Eager to continue advancing

within this federal/Haida structure, Ernie expressed an interest in the superintendent position. "So, I moved from manager of the maintenance department into a developmental position and worked alongside the then-Superintendent," he said.

Things obviously went well. Ernie has been Superintendent for the past 10 years and speaks with knowledge and experience as he describes the balance he must find between Haida Nation protocol and citizen expectations and Parks Canada requirements.

"When you're from Haida Gwaii there are expectations people have of you that sometimes aren't in line with Parks Canada's expectations." Finding that balance takes diplomacy and patience, and though navigating that line can be difficult and stressful, the job does come with benefits. As Superintendent, Ernie has visited all of the provinces and territories in Canada and many of the national historic sites and parks. He has also travelled internationally, visiting the US, Ireland, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand.

With his many accomplishments Ernie remains modest and attributes most of Gwaii Haanas' success to his colleagues. "We have a solid team and I really enjoy working with people here," he said. This sentiment was echoed recently in a speech Ernie gave when accepting the *George Wright Society's Cultural Resource Achievement Award* – an award recognizing protected areas for their natural and cultural value. "When I accepted the award, I made it clear that the work we do here in Haida Gwaii isn't done just by me – it's done by the team that we have working here and the team at the Council of the Haida Nation."

Gwaii Haanas directly employs about 45 people, not including summer student positions. Haidas fill half of these positions. Ernie said there are many interesting opportunities, some of which include employment designed specifically for youth within the many departments at Gwaii Haanas. He says to watch for the job ads and call in to ask about the positions.

One of the benefits of living and

working in one place for a long time is the opportunity to see things change over time. Ernie's attachment to Gwaii Haanas began at an early age. "I first experienced Gwaii Haanas when I was about 12 years old," he said. "I went down there for about a week and travelled around by zodiac with just a few others and really connected with the area ... we did a lot of food gathering and exploring and it was at that time I became really attached to the place."

PREPARING FOR AN INTERVIEW

At Gwaii Haanas, when jobs are posted, along with the job description is a document called the *Statement of Qualifications*. The *Statement of Qualifications* is key to the hiring process and identifies everything that the interview committee will be looking for. You should pick up a copy of the document before an interview to help you prepare. During the interview be ready to respond to each of the items in the *Statement of Qualifications* and talk about your abilities and skills in relation to specific items in the document.

An interview committee at Gwaii Haanas generally consists of the manager of the Human Resources department and at least one other manager along with a representative of the Council of the Haida Nation. The interview committee will review your personal suitability and attributes and conduct the interview.

Ernie suggests that you talk with and get advice from somebody who's already employed at Gwaii Haanas and has therefore been through the hiring process.



12TH INTERNATIONAL HAIDA LANGUAGE GATHERING

APRIL 27 - 28TH
2012

AT S.H.I.P.
LONGHOUSE

HLGAAGILDA XAAYDA KIL NAAY
SKIDEGATE HAIDA IMMERSION PROGRAM
SKIDEGATE, HAIDA GWAII, B.C.

This gathering is open to anyone interested in saving and revitalizing our Haida language. Discussions will include a wide range of topics, including Haida language curriculum and teaching materials, Haida dictionaries, Master/Apprentice language programs, developments in Haida orthography and much more.

XAAYDA KIL DA KAAGANDA
SGAAWDAGII DANG GA T'ALANG KIL 'LAA

For information contact ship@haidagwaii.net



YOU ARE IMPORTANT!

**Please attend the JOINT REVIEW PANEL HEARINGS
and witness contemporary and oral history being presented
to the Panel by our people and our neighbours
on Haida Gwaii.**

**Old Massett Community Hall
February 28 & 29, 2012
9:00 am**

The Hearings are part of a federal government review of the proposed Enbridge oil pipeline project that would run from Alberta to Kitimat.

In addition to the pipeline, the proposed project would require over 200 oil tankers to circumnavigate Haida Gwaii each year to transport the oil to Asian and US markets.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable attend these hearings there are also two days of Hearings scheduled for Skidegate, March 21 and 22 .

lunch provided

