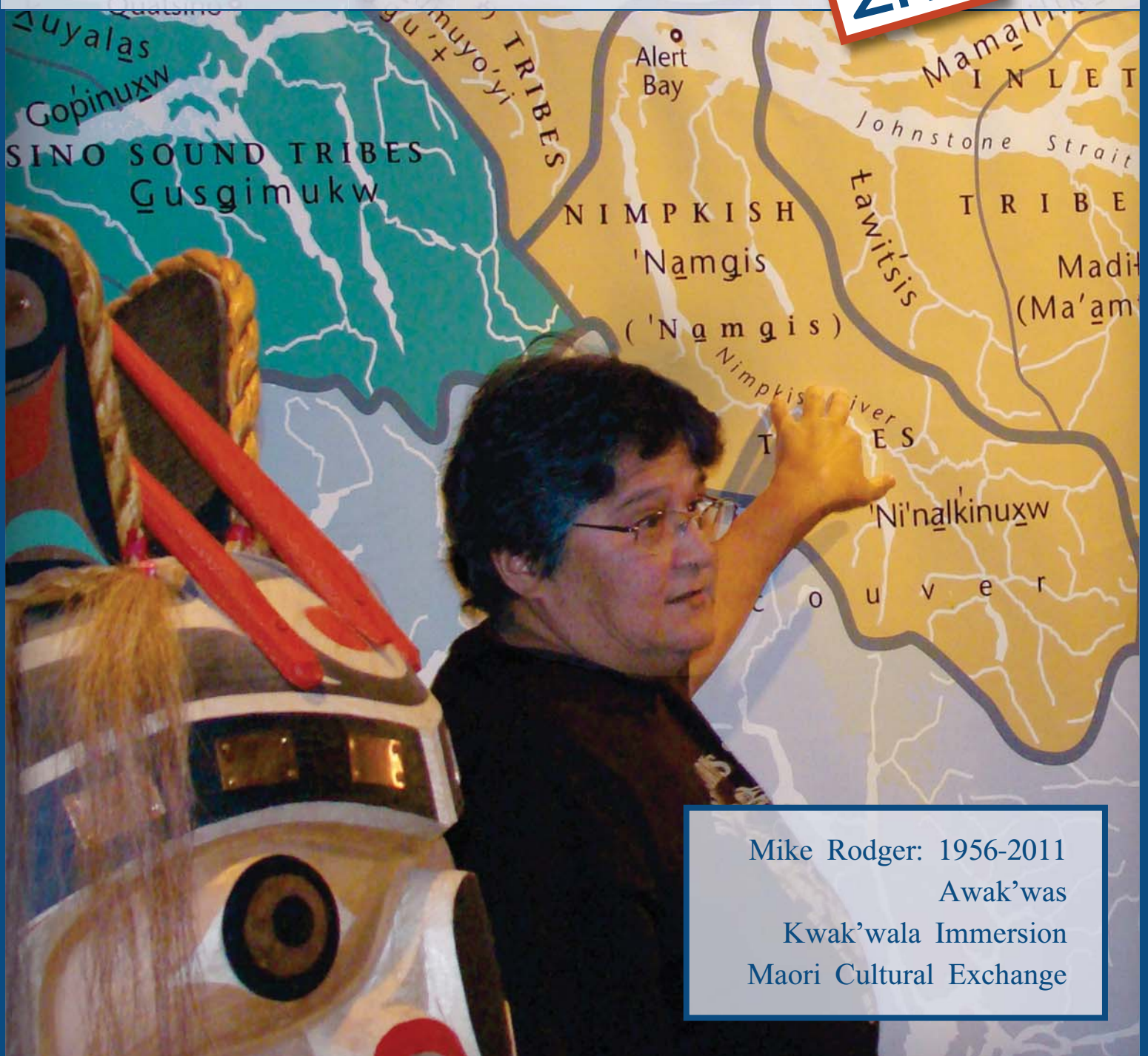


'Namgis First Nation Newsletter Fall 2011

KALA' MAS

'Namgis Author releases **2nd** book



Mike Rodger: 1956-2011
Awak'was
Kwak'wala Immersion
Maori Cultural Exchange

'Namgis Council
with portfolio assignments

Chief Bill Cranmer

Treaty; Economic
Development; Council
Hiring Committee; Finance;
Culture; Ex-officio of all
Committees

Jerry Alfred

Public Works; Housing;
Aquatic Resources

Pearl Alfred

Treaty; Health

Chris Cook

Treaty; Finance;
Community Justice;
Education

Barb Cranmer

Culture; Economic
Development; Treaty

Arthur Dick

Community Justice;
Forestry; Parks & Protected
Areas; Treaty

Norine Smith

Treaty; Economic
Development;
Council Hiring
Committee; Health

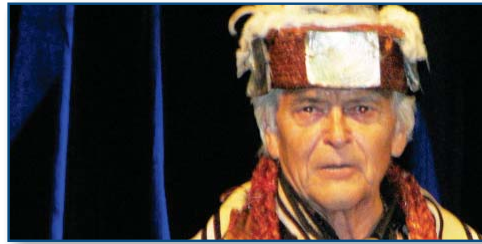
Brian Wadhams

Treaty; Forestry;
Community Justice;
Recreation; Parks &
Protected Areas

Greg Wadhams

Treaty; Aquatic Resources;
Recreation; Council Hiring
Committee

From My Point of View with Chief Bill Cranmer



Gilakas'la!

One thing I have grown to appreciate is that the best results often come from careful planning for the outcome you want. This has been a very progressive and successful year for 'Namgis.

For several years our Nation has been in the planning and design stages of several key projects, which have immense long term positive potential for our community, and I would like to touch on just a few of those. Kwagis Power. For the past several years, 'Namgis has been in negotiations and planning to develop a Run of River Hydro project that would make 'Namgis the single largest power producer on the North Island. We have recently completed the latest stage in the Environmental Assessment and are well on our way to breaking ground on this \$200 Million Project. Additionally, 'Namgis has developed partnerships with the Lemare Group and Ketza Pacific Construction to bid on the construction of key components of the project. As well as opening up our community to jobs through Kiewit Construction - the General Contractor selected for this project.

K'udas our Closed Containment project is key to the future of our wild salmon stocks. For decades 'Namgis has fought with Atlantic Fish Farms over the protection of our Wild Salmon and their habitat. 'Namgis argued that closed containment was the answer, protecting our waters, while accepting the jobs that have been created by the industry. K'udas has made 'Namgis stand out as a world leader in closed containment. Something I am very proud of. As 'Namgis we need to be leaders to protect our territory, and in this we have the attention of the world. To date we have received more than \$6 million towards this project in grants, and I am encouraged that we will be breaking ground on this project very soon.

In August we received \$1.5 million of prawn, crab and salmon licenses from DFO's PICFI program. This winter we will set up our community fisheries enterprise, Mama'omas Limited Partnership, and be ready to receive the next allotment of licenses in the coming year..

There are more great things underway, but this is what I wanted to share with you today.

Kwaxalanukwame' 'Namugwis
Bill Cranmer

ALL 'Namgis Nation Members

Your current contact information (mailing address; email address; phone) are needed for our database. This will be beneficial when we need to locate you.

Please forward your contact information to Gina Wadhams, Communications Coordinator at:
GinaW@namgis.bc.ca or call 250-974-5556 Extension 3115

From the desk of the Editor



First of all, I'd like to pay my respects to 'Namgis Senior Treaty Negotiator Mike Rodger. Mike was a wonderful, wise man who worked so hard for our nation and wanted the best for us.

I am very proud and happy for Honey - her new book 'My Life With the Salmon'. Book has now been released.

It was an overwhelming experience to witness William Wasden Jr. & Patricia Alfred's marriage ceremony in our Bighouse. Powerful and breathtaking potlatch where all the guests left feeling totally cleansed with our songs, dances and hospitality.

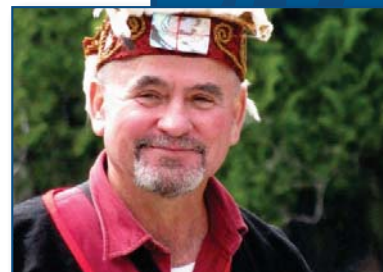
Please check out our new website: www.namgis.bc.ca

Gina
Wadhams
'Namgis Communications Coordinator

Yakudʔasdzi Corner

Gilakas'la!

Summer's gone, the kids are back in school and the 'Namgis continue to wrestle with thorny issues including losing important members of our community. For me the loss of our Treaty Negotiator, Mike Rodger, was a personal blow. I want to personally thank all those who organized the mourning ceremony at Woss Lake. For me, it was a very moving and healing event and helped me tremendously to cope with Mike's loss.



As we all know the living must carry on and we can thank Mike for building a strong team and for laying the groundwork for us to complete the "Agreement-in-Principle" (AIP) stage of treaty negotiation. Our Council, in consultation, with our lawyer has decided that we will hold off on bringing in a new Negotiator until after the AIP. Between AIP and the Final Agreement will be a whole new stage of negotiations and it is at this time that a new Negotiator will be engaged.

Huge thanks goes to those community members who went food fishing, at their own expense, and freely distributed fish to the community. Their generosity and hard work speaks volumes about the goodness in their hearts. Our Council also authorized the hiring of boats to food fish for our membership. Unfortunately, we are continuously plagued with the fact that not all of our members are able to benefit from the generosity of community members and Council and at this time the delivery of fish to urban centers is not economically feasible. Still many members who live in urban communities made their annual trek home to participate in the family festivities of doing fish.

Doing fish with family is always a welcome time to renew our connection to each other wherever we live.

Our audit has been completed and Council has met with the These results will be presented to our membership on November 17th. As per usual, the full audit is available to all 'Namgis members upon request and is posted on our web-site. Bring your questions to the meeting.

Yakudʔasdzi
George Speck - Senior Administrator

Elder Corner ~ Reuben Whonnock

by Linda Whonnock



Born in Alert Bay in 1939, Reuben Whonnock Sr. is of a day and age that walked a fine line of following family tradition and culture. As if an earthquake happened and hardly a leg to stand on, that all changed abruptly to having your family ripped apart from unknown enemies with power no one knew where they got it from. Questions still yet to be answered as to how someone thinks they know what is best for you and being a child who knows better. How your family treasures are being hidden, sold off or burnt. Some harsh realities that our children are learning about as our elders are speaking out. Residential School was not invited to our lands. Rueben has concerns with treaty and what percentage of the land we are settling for.

Reuben talks about how he was at his Uncle Ed's house a lot sitting on the floor, knowing he had to be quiet and having to listen to what was being said by the Chiefs. He shares with us how it was important to know the oral history of where you came from and who you were related to and how those family ties extended into other territories. He laughs at remembering how he wanted to go outside and play but he had to sit there and listen. That was just the way it was. It's tough he says. As he starts to talk about Treaty and his concerns, you can see it's with a heavy heart and passion. He says, "Well what I think about first is our ('Namgis) children. Let's start with our children and teach them what Treaty means. Are we not those same powers that are the all "knowing what's best" for our future as 'Namgis. Let us teach our children what it means to be self governing and see what they have to say. Teach them about their rights as 'Namgis. Maybe it's already happening but I haven't heard from our children. Let's teach them about the politics of the Band Office and our Chief and Council. With straight facts only, no propaganda, no on reserve, no off reserve mentality. Teach them how the businesses are run and what happens in meetings, what kind of deals is made. Let's allow them to ask the hard questions and hope that we get the straight answers. Let's have an open door policy where we develop land for our people to come home and have enough land and housing to allow for every family to have a place.

As it used to be, let's take care of each other in this day and age where it concerns, health, education, housing and food fishing. It shouldn't matter that I live down here in Vancouver or wherever, I am 'Namgis. I take care of my family back home or wherever they are, even though I am down here.

RCMP ~ Constable Matt Baker

Constable Matt Baker has been with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for 4 years. His last post was in Nanaimo where he was part of the Municipal Bike Unit. Cst. Baker has partnered with the Snuneymuxw First Nations on many Policing projects. While in Nanaimo, Cst. Baker worked in cooperation with numerous social service agencies assisting clients in overcoming addiction issues, mental health and homelessness.

Cst. Baker was raised in a Military family and has lived all over Canada from coast to coast including overseas. Matt has studied Political Science from Carleton University in Ottawa. Cst. Baker is single, has no children and is avid scuba diver.



Youth Corner ~ Darian Harris

Darian has been playing ice hockey for 8 years now. He started learning how to skate in a Can-Skate Program at the Fuller Lake Arena when he was 3 years old. From that point on he always talked about being a hockey player. His favorite NHL hockey player was and still is Jordin Tootoo. At the age of 8, Darian was able to go and see Jordin Tootoo in Vancouver when the Canucks hosted the Nashville Predators. Darian was able to get his picture taken with Jordin.

Darian has played rep hockey from the time he started with the Novice D team. Cowichan Valley in which he plays for started a rep team at an early age of Novice. He has played Atom A and Peewee A. Darian has worked hard in those tryouts and earned the right to play on those A teams. He enjoys all areas of the game of hockey. He recently finished playing on a spring hockey team from Parksville. It was an opportunity to get more ice time as he awaits upcoming hockey camps and tryouts.

His next season he will be tryout for the Bantam A or B teams of the Cowichan Valley Capitals Organization. Before the season starts he will be doing a two week conditioning camp out of the Kerry Park Arena. He will be doing strength, endurance, nutrition, and on ice practices. Darian is looking forward to another hockey season in which he can continue to improve his game. His ultimate plan is to play hockey for a career.



DANCING WITH PUBLIC EDUCATION

K-12

Integrating, Infusing and Naturalizing Indigenous content in Teacher Pedagogy – Gloria Cole

I am a doctoral student in the University of British Columbia Doctorate in Education: Leadership and Policy program in the Faculty of Education, Department of Educational Studies.

I am looking for Parents (Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal) who have children who attend public schools in School District #85; and Teachers (Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal) and Administrators (Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal) employed with School District #85 to participate in my research project.

My research project is focused on:

How can Indigenous Knowledge (IK) be included in meaningful ways in a rural school district that has a substantial enrollment of Aboriginal learners? What are the challenges for including IK in Public K-12 education?

How can IK shape teachers' pedagogy?

What supports do teachers need in order to naturalize IK as part of their practice?

I will require about 1.5 to 2 hours of your time to answer questions in regards to my research. Your participation is completely voluntary and confidential.

There is no monetary exchange. If you are interested, you can contact me at 250-974-2757

Councillor's Corner

Norine Smith



Gilakas'la Nugwam Mayanil, my name is Norine Smith I was elected as 'Namgis First Nation Councilor in the December 2010 Election. Prior to being Elected as a Council Member, I was always taught to be accountable, responsible and most of all respectful. My Parents are Roy Cranmer Sr and Vera Newman, Stepdad Edwin Newman, Grandparents Dan and Agnes Cranmer and Arthur and Nora Dick, Great Grandparents on my Mother's side Moses and Agnes Alfred. I am married to Frank Jack Smith Sr and have two Sons: Frank John Arthur Smith Jr (born 1993) and Moses George Alfred Smith (born 1998). I was born and was raised in Alert Bay. Even though this is my first time sitting at a political table, I have been around politics all of my life. My Parents, Grandparents, Great Grandparents and Sister have served as Elected Chiefs, Presidents and Council Members of different organizations over the years. One thing my Grandmother Agnes Cranmer said to me when I was younger is "I am 84 years old and I am still learning. Once you close your mind and think you know everything, you are going to run into problems". I am doing my best to keep this in mind in my daily life and when I am sitting at the table in meetings. My portfolios include: Health Board, Hiring and Economic Development.

I come from culturally strong families on both my Father and Mothers side so I feel a have a good balance between living in today's world and culture.

I have been an employee of the Village of Alert Bay as the Visitor Centre Manager since 1995. Although the Village of Alert Bay Mayor and Council is much smaller then the 'Namgis First Nation Chief and Council, I have gained knowledge on how Councils work. This knowledge I am taking into my position as a 'Namgis Nation Councilor. I am doing my best to keep an open mind and learn as much as I can from present and past Chief and Council Members who have taken time to talk with me, even outside the meeting table and for that I am very thankful.

At this time I would also like to thank the late Mike Rodger, 'Namgis Nation Senior Treaty Negotiator for his endless patience to help me to better understand the treaty process we are in. His efforts were very much appreciated and he will be missed at the treaty table.

Thank you for your time and giving me the opportunity to introduce myself. Gilakas'la

Submissions for Kala'mas

Seeking articles for Kala'mas sections:

Youth Profile; Artist Profile, and Elder Corner.

$\frac{3}{4}$ page write up plus a couple of pictures is the standard article.

If you would like to suggest names for these sections, our staff will follow up and put the article together if permission granted by person recommended. All submissions should be emailed, in word format, to Gina Wadhams at: GinaW@namgis.bc.ca. If there is anything in particular that you'd like to see included in the newsletter, please let us know. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the community of what the Band Administration, Chief and Council are working on. Please send your ideas and requests to Gina and we'll do what we can to include more information.

Mike Rodger: 1956-2011



On July 31, 2011, 'Namgis lost our Senior Treaty Negotiator, and a good and caring friend in a motorcycle accident near Alturas, California. Many 'Namgis will remember Mike as a big man with a big booming voice, and a heart as big as the rest of his personality and stature.

Mike first came to work for our community in 2003, to work for us, and to carry on participation in the BC Treaty process. His reputation was of a man who got things done, and pushed government negotiators to think outside the box. Where Mike worked, new and innovative approaches to reconciling the gaps between First Nations and Governments were born. His hard work and determination helped push the idea of co-management and shared jurisdiction. Mike was determined that 'Namgis would have the final say and control over our own destiny, and future. One of Mike's biggest contributions to our community was his never tiring efforts to encourage use and occupancy of our vast territory, he encouraged work on community cabins, camping trips, utilization and replenishing of our traditional grease trail, meetings in traditional village sites, and In depth research into traditional use and occupancy to set the stage for our claims at the treaty table. His job to move our table forward under the guidance of Chief and Council can never be forgotten.

Mike often battled government on key issues which would ultimately benefit all first nations - not just those he worked for. Most recently, Mike was successful at convincing the Federal Government to introduce changes to legislation which treated unfairly First Nations who participated in economic ventures through partnerships in trust.

Mike will be missed by all who knew him, and he will have our gratitude for a job well done.

“My whole adult life has been spent in the company of Aboriginal people in Canada. I have lived and work all over our country, their land. It has been a true blessing. I have learned so much about being human in those years.”
- Mike Rodger

Mike Rodger

'Namgis Senior Treaty Negotiator

by Honey Alfred

Mike insisted that we as a people must show our present day use of our traditional territory in the Nimpkish Valley.

Before his unexpected death, he had our staff help organize a community camping trip to Wa's Lake. I was going to withdraw from the trip because it was to happen within days of our great loss. After a day or two of reflection, I went ahead with the trip. Mike would have wanted this to happen and so I attended with over 150 band members.

After we arrived at Wa's Lake, Chief Bill Cranmer had a forty-five minute ceremony in honor of Mike, my Boss and our Negotiator to start the official camping trip. We gathered in a circle and he sang a mourning song in his honor then had Chief George Speck walk around spreading feathers onto us and around the ground in front of us to bless the ground we stood on.

Chief Cranmer then called all treaty staff in attendance to the front and said we were all hurting and feeling the loss of the Mike but he said we, the staff felt it more because we worked and talked with him the most of all.

Our Chief said that they were going to wipe away our tears and pain through our traditions. Chief Cranmer started to sing along with his son. Knowledgeable women wiped each one of us down with cedar boughs

from head to toe and then shook the gathered pain off the branches onto the ground. The women then placed hands over our hearts to take away our pain and suffering. They washed our faces, arms, hands and legs with water from Wa's Lake to cleanse the wounds. Red ochre was then rubbed onto our foreheads, around our wrists and ankles. This ochre was to prevent the pain from coming back into our bodies.

The women told us to walk to the open fire pit at the campsite and walk around it and let any lingering pain be taken. After this was done, we walked around the circle of witnesses and went back to where our Chief was.

Chief Cranmer then said this would help us let go of all pain and then four respected women walked around the circle releasing shaking the cedar boughs over each person in attendance and they threw all the boughs into the fire to burn away our sorrows and tears. Singers sang while the women wiped the tears and sorrow away from the healing circle.

He closed off the ceremony saying that he would finish singing the mourning songs in our Big House after Mike was laid to rest as it should be done.

It was very emotional but we needed to wash our tears and sorrow away. It was a fitting tribute to Mike and a nice way to say goodbye to him in our traditional territory at Wa's Lake.

'Namgis Post Secondary

Applications for funding can be requested from Vickie Brotchie or Irene Speck (Band Office: 250-974-5556)

Deadlines:

May 15th for September Term

November 15th for January Term

Post Secondary Committee members are: Verna Ambers, Lynn Anderson, Peggy Svanvik, Wayne Cook and Wayne Peterson.

Summer Student Joe Wilson Jr.

I am very happy that I was hired to work as a Summer Student this year with the 'Namgis Nation.

My job included clearing the trails around the island – ensuring that all the trails were comfortable to walk. After cleaning the trails and beaches, I learned to appreciate our island more. It was neat to see all of the trails that I have never seen before.

Some other jobs included: Picking up garbage around the reserve, tidying up in netloft and working with the Recreation Centre staff – supervising children.

I enjoyed having a variety of jobs. We were always doing something different. I learned some helpful things such as riding a kayak and canoe and using a wood splitter.

Every time that I have worked with the 'Namgis Nation, it has always been a great experience and a pleasure. I was learning something new all the time. I hope to work for 'Namgis again in the future.

'Namgis Nation would like to acknowledge the dedication and devotion that Joe demonstrated during his employment with the Summer Student program.



“We recognize Joe to be an independent, diligent hard working individual who is always at work and always on time.”



Shadow Alfred

Shadow has had some very exciting things happen to 'Namgis Member, Shadow Anna Mae Alfred since she moved to Victoria this year. After Shadow's first three months in grade 11 at Victoria High School she was put on the honor roll with A's and B's. Then thanks to family member Mariah Robinson (Wadhams), Shadow was able to try out for the Victoria Highlanders Soccer team of which she successfully made the cut. The Highlanders will give Shadow the training, ability and opportunity to hopefully one day play women's professional soccer.

In the beginning of July Shadow also signed up for the National Defense, Aboriginal Raven Program, but instead was sent to Ontario's Aboriginal Black Bear Program. There Shadow completed Basic Military Training with 96% and will now be joining the Military Reserves here in Victoria, whom will also back her 100% with her soccer career. With the credits earned from this Black Bear Program Shadow will complete grade 12 in January 2012, six months early and looks forward to coming to the Alert Bay Graduation Celebration.

Although Shadow was very sad to move away from home and her life time friends she adjusted and is now doing amazing things here in Victoria. Shadow's Mom, Sherry Lynn Alfred is very proud of her baby and all her accomplishments she has had in the last six months. Moving here to Victoria has opened a lot of doors for the both of us.



BC Ambulance Service

Alert Bay Ambulance Welcomes New Recruit, better known to everyone as the Alert Bay Ambulance team is pleased to welcome Kevin Langlands as our newest team member. Kevin, who also serves as the 'Namgis Director of Communications came to us after learning that Station 102 is desperately understaffed from our own Don Svanvik. We are thrilled that Kevin has joined our team initially as a driver, but we look forward to his successful licensing as an Emergency Medical responder over the coming months.

We would also like to take this time to thank the Alert Bay Women's Auxilliary for funding our new weather proof jackets that you can see, Wayne, Sue and Don wearing in this photo. Your ongoing support is appreciated.

Why join BCAS? I have been asked, why I recently decided to join the Alert Bay Ambulance team, for me the answer is simple. I wanted to do more for the community I have come to love. Alert Bay has always had a special place in my heart. I remember coming to Alert Bay for the first time as a child of seven. I also remember meeting Stan Hunt on that trip so long ago, and years later remembering him when I first had the chance to work for 'Namgis. I remember almost calling him "Uncle Stan" with a slip of the tongue, but caught myself just in time.

Over the course of my time working for 'Namgis I have had the privilege to meet and know a great many people, and one of those individuals I always sought to make time for was Don Svanvik. Seeing Don in his Ambulance uniform, all spiffed up was an entirely different person that the lumber shirt, and dirty boots Don that I knew as a 'Namgis Guardian. I was intrigued. I would ask him about his role with the BC Ambulance Service, and Don proudly spoke about service to the community, about the need for more people to join the team to ensure quality care "here at home". And, he told me that I should consider it. "It's a good use of your time", I recall him telling me. "Its part time, on-call work. In this community it's not a career, but it can be a great supplement, and once you are on the team, the opportunities for further development are there for those interested".



About a year later, I couldn't recall some of the details of our conversation, so I asked him again. He reminded me of the need for people to give to the community, of the pride one can get by giving just a little more. I thanked him, and before I could leave he had given me Sue Bell's telephone number. "Call her", is all he said. I thought about it, and I considered the time I am lucky to spend in Alert Bay with 'Namgis, non - 'Namgis, It is an honour. So yes, I called her. I still wasn't sure I wanted to venture down this road, it was a completely different direction than any other road I had travelled.

Sue, was just bursting with excitement, her commitment to the community, and to getting more people engaged in the BC Ambulance Service for Alert Bay was contagious. Before I knew it, I was signed up for the three week EMR course in Vancouver. What a thrill, a new challenge, new skills and knowledge that can actually save people's lives, and I was joining a team eager to help me be the best I could be at my new tasks. I won't lie, the process was hard, the knowledge needed is intense, but the reward of being part of an exciting team serving a community I care about has made it so worthwhile.

So now we are four. We should be ten, Ten people to staff the Alert Bay station, ten people to share the responsibility and privilege of providing quality life saving care. Do you have the time to give your community? Have you ever wanted to assist when the need is greatest? I encourage you to get in touch with Sue Bell at: susan.bell@bcas.ca.

Kwak'wala Immersion



T'hisalagi'lakw Kwakwala Immersion Camp August 1 - 6, 2011. The T'hisalagi'lakw Kwakwala Immersion Camp ran from August 1 - 4, 2011 at the T'hisalagi'lakw School and August 5 - 6, 2011 at the Wa'as camp site. The six days were full of cultural activity and language lead by our fluent Kwakwala elders Norman Glendale, Irene Cook, Eva Dick, Tommy Speck, and Vera Newman. Supporting the elders were Pewi Alfred teaching Kwakwala using the Total Physical Response or TPR method, Andrea Cranmer

teaching Kwakwaka'wakw song and dance which included traditional teachings and discussions on traditional law and spirituality. Donna Cranmer coordinating the 6 days of action packed activities.

During the first four days students were split into 8 groups. During the Morning students participated in TPR Kwakwala class, with Pewi and an elder, song and dance with Andrea and Vera, story telling with Eva and Baking with Donna and Irene. The ages of participants ranged from 10 month old to 55 year olds. Each afternoon everyone participated in cultural teaching creating their own cedar bark berry baskets with cedar weaving teachers Anthony Hunt & Donna Cranmer. The children picked berries and Elizabeth Nelson showed them how to make berry cakes. Students learned how to make Kanolis (fried bread by the open fire) with Jeanie Smith and made their own T'fupsa'yu (barbeque sticks) with Arthur Hunt as well as made T'fubakw with Arthur and Anthony Hunt. Barb Cranmer our own award winning film maker recorded all afternoon cultural activities. Gloria Beans was in the kitchen preparing great morning and afternoon snacks and hot lunches for the six day camp.

The last two days of our immersion was spent with other 'Namgis members who were participating in the Łaxwe'gila "gaining strength" gathering at the Wa'as camp site. The Łaxwe'gila gathering was coordinated by Barb Cranmer, Diane Jacobsen and Jamie Hunt, as well as many other people who felt the need to be in our traditional territory. Dawn Cranmer brought the group to an area where they gathered Traditional Medicine and she shared her wealth of knowledge in this area. William Wasden lead a ceremony of returning the salmon remains to the river after the fish was cleaned for the Salmon Barbeque. Anthony Hunt and Antonio Popovich with many helping hands put the sockeye on sticks and barbequed them. Honey lead a group on a 3 hour tour through our traditional territory and taught us many place names and some of our 'Namgis history. Joe and Jack Alfred transported those wishing to bathe in the glacier waters on the 'Namgis First Nation boats. Andrea Cranmer with the help of Ruby Peterson, Shelley Cook and Vera Newman lead the ceremony to wash away some of the sorrow of the loss of our Sr. Treaty Negotiator - Mike Rodgers. A great time was had by all and some of the participants hope that it can be longer next year. Gilakasda'xw'la to all those that made the immersion camp possible, gave of their time and a special thanks to all those students that wanted to learn more of our Kwakwala language. We hope for bigger and better things next year. We would like to thank First Peoples Culture and Heritage Foundation for the funding to host our Immersion camp.

Awak'was

In front of our village, there was a carefully leveled street, supported by an embankment of heavy logs. From the street, steps led down to the beach where the canoes lay. Across from the houses, platforms were built out over the embankment and rested on a framework of poles. These were summer seats called awak'was [sitting on a summer seat] where 'Namgis Chiefs met, women often gave small potlatch gifts out to other ladies and was a general place to meet for the people.

Boas field notes said, "Sometimes each house and each clan have their own summer seat. They give potlatches on summer seats, and they count the number of times they have been on the seats of other clans."

A priority of 'Namgis was to enhance the waterfront. It started last year with the completion of the boardwalk; this year was the completion of 5 awak'was. At first the plan was to have one awak'was erected, after community consultation meetings, one soon turned into five. The idea behind having five is one for each of the five 'Namgis Namima. You can find these awak'was along the waterfront, starting at the Council Hall and ending at the U'mista Cultural Centre.

The project has also created employment and capacity building for 'Namgis members. All of the wood provided was milled by 'Namgis members. Also, there were graduates fresh out of the carpentry course working on construction of the awak'was. Since completion, people have used and appreciated the five awak'was and boardwalks. 'Namgis has been complimented on these structures.

On July 21, 2011, everyone was invited to attend the opening ceremony. Chief Bill Cranmer welcomed everyone and then all together, the boardwalk was blessed with eagle down. At each awak'was, the T'sasala Cultural Group performed for the audience as eagle down was scattered. The youth performing were so full of pride, as were the people watching.

The ceremony was wrapped up with speeches by Chief Bill Cranmer, Mayor of Alert Bay Michael Berry, and Mayor of Port McNeill Gerry Furney. After all of the speeches were done, fresh Nimpkish BBQ sockeye salmon, salads and fried bread was provided for everyone who came out to witness the event. The overall atmosphere was awe-inspiring.



5th Ni'nalkinaxn 'Up River People' Wolf Charlie Walkus 'Numas'	4th Sisanłayi 'Ones Descending from Santle' Sun Moses Alfred	3rd Gigal'gan 'First Ones' Thunderbird łaxusan	2nd łat'łglamin 'Ones Descending From Kulus łalamin Johnny Drabble	1st T'sit'sal'walagama'yi 'Famous Ones' 'Namxiyalagiya Ned Harris	U'mista
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Staff Corner: Byron Alfred

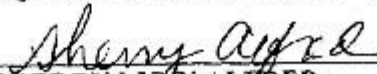


Hello Everyone! I am your children's favourite Bus Driver and the School/ Staff's main maintenance man. I started work at the T'lisalagi'lakw School in 1995 – the year it was being built. I was hired as the Maintenance Man. My responsibilities were to look after the overall maintenance of the school, the teacherages and the grounds keeping. I worked with a fellow by the name of Stan at SG Mechanical to learn the heating and sprinkler systems. At the start of my job at the school, John Anderson and I would open the gym at 7:45am for the kids that would show up early for school. Sadly, this no longer happens. In 2001, I was asked to get my Class 2 driver's license. Reluctantly, I got it. I did not think I could be as good as previous bus driver Dale Hamilton was with the children. I have been driving for 10 years now and I really enjoy seeing the children on the bus every day. From time to time, I take the Daycare children for rides as they really enjoy the school bus ride. It feels good to know a simple thing like a bus ride can put a big smile on a child's face. Your children's safety is the first thing I believe in and getting them to and from school in a safe manner. Another school year is about to begin so, remember, when the red lights are flashing, there are children getting on or off the bus. . . DON'T TRY TO PASS, JUST STOP, AND WAIT. I don't think anyone wants to hurt a child or want the fine you get when you a pass my bus because I will report you. In May of this year, I also started doing some of the Lawrence Ambers Recreation Centre maintenance. I wish both the T'lisalagi'lakw and Alert Bay Elementary Schools a great year.

Orca Sand and Gravel wish to print the following statement following a Joint Human Resources Review Process

Sherry Lynn Alfred was a valuable employee of the Company and is a 'Namgis member. She is no longer employed with the Company. Before she left employment, Sherry Lynn Alfred commenced a Human Rights Tribunal complaint alleging systemic racial discrimination and individual sexual harassment. The complaint has been resolved and all parties are satisfied with the resolution. Part of that resolution included the concept of establishing this Committee on a standing basis. This Committee is a forum for the Company to reiterate its commitment to the principle of the Impact and Benefits Agreement, the BC *Human Rights Code*, and to advance employment opportunities or address unresolved issues for its 'Namgis employees.

Signed at Vancouver, BC this 6th day of December, 2010.


SHERRY LYNN ALFRED


HERB WILSON on behalf of ORCA
SAND & GRAVEL LTD.

Łaxwe'gila Gathering

Wa'as August 5-7, 2011

'Namgis once again went to our traditional territory and spent three fun filled days at Wa's campsite. There were over one hundred people in attendance. Some of the treaty staff went up a day early to bring firewood, tables and tents for the kitchen. After letting some campers know that we were expecting many people the next day, they packed up and moved to Anutz Lake to make room for our group.

Dawn Cranmer and Eva Dick did traditional medicine. Joe and Jack Alfred did the glacier cleansing for anyone who wished to go and fifty plus went. William Wasden Jr made sure that there was Lahal games nightly. Donna Cranmer's summer kwakwala program supplied meals for the group and Gloria Beans was the head chef. Vera Cranmer and Irene Cook held a kwakwala healing circle where no English was spoken at all by the participants. Terry Joe Alfred made sure that the kayaks and canoes were brought for use by everyone. Tanis Taylor and Shannon Alfred were on hand for any emergency with a ready supply of first aid equipment. Thisłigi'lakw supplied their bus for transportation and Denise Cranmer was the bus driver.

There was a small Memorial ceremony for Mike Rodger at the campsite and another fifty people joined the campers for this event and stayed for dinner. Brian Wadhams caught seventy fresh sockeye that was cleaned by willing campers and cooks. Verna brought a gallon of Tłina and everyone chipped in for the salads. A great feast was had by all to end the day.

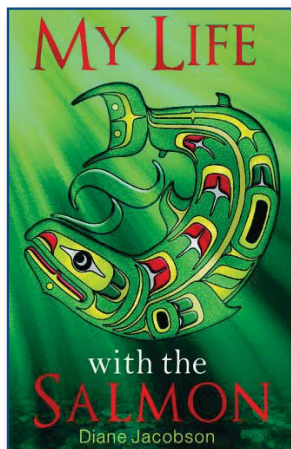
Children and adults swam, kayaked and canoed daily because we woke up to the sun each day. On the final day, Honey Alfred took a caravan of vehicles loaded to the maximum on a tour of one corner of 'Namgis territory. The tour stopped on the Davie River Bridge and William Wasden Jr told a Madam origin story that was told by Kenneth Hunt. This story takes place on the Davie River.

The tour continued on to the Klaklakama Lakes, upper Nimpkish River, Vernon Lake, Kiyu Creek and Nimpkish Island.

The group saw sockeye at Nimpkish Island and also spotted a new petroglyph on the dry creek bed. Sockeye also jumped out of the water when we stopped at a section of Upper Nimpkish River which Gwa'ni Hatchery calls 2k holding pool.

It was a very successful weekend and plans are in the works to bring the group to Vernon Lake next year because many of the people have not been there yet.

'Namgis Author Releases 2nd Book!



Through Theytus Books, 'Namgis author Diane (Honey) Jacobson's [Alfred] second book 'My Life With the Salmon' has been released. On the 34th Anniversary of the U'mista Cultural Centre, the centre hosted a book launch and reading. Honey stated that the book was to be dedicated to the late Bert Svanvik but for some reason, it was published without that notation. Books can be purchased from Honey, Shannon or at the U'mista Cultural Centre.

You can also visit Theytus Books Website for more information:
<http://www.theytus.com/Book-List/My-Life-with-the-Salmon>

Congratulations
Honey, We are
all proud of you!

Moses Smith ~ Science Fair Award



On May 14, 2011, Moses Smith (accompanied by Gloria Cole) is heading to the Canada Wide Science Fair (CWSF) in Seneca College, Newham Campus, North York in Toronto, Ontario. Moses is one of two finalists from the Vancouver Island North Region to attend the CWSF. This was a historical moment as it had ten years since anyone from the Vancouver Island North Region had attended

the CWSF. The other Finalist was Trevor Harder from the North Island Secondary School in Port McNeill. There were approximately 500 Finalists from all over Canada, a few from Mexico, Australia and Taiwan as well.

Moses and Gloria stayed on campus in Residence at Seneca College. All meals were shared at the cafeteria on-campus which Moses considered it a 5 star meal (dessert was delicious).

Moses' project was about the 'Kwakwaka'wakw Uses of Devil's Club'. Moses had to present his project to students from schools throughout the Toronto area, Judges and the Public. Moses was interviewed by a Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) reporter.

In Toronto, we got to tour the Ontario Science Centre, CN Tower, Royal Ontario Museum, the Hockey Hall of Fame and attend a Blue Jays game.

"Moses felt good that he was selected to go to Toronto and just being in Toronto was what he enjoyed the most. The experience there has given him more confidence and he would like to travel to other places. Moses was an awesome Ambassador", stated Gloria.

Gilakas'la! to our family, friends and the community for their support that enabled both Moses and Gloria to attend the Canada Science Fair.

'Namgis Employment office

331 Larch Street (located across from Alert Bay Elementary School) 8:30am – 4:30pm

Services are available only to people needing assistance with any of the following:
Business matters | Employment matters | Training matters | Education matters
Please note: The facility is not for people to get onto a 'chat line' or to cruise the internet for information unrelated to any of the above.

Thank You! Randy Bell/Employment Officer

Maori Cultural Exchange

On July 23, 2011, a group of Maori arrived on 'Namgis traditional territories. The community came out to welcome our guests. The Maori were honoured with song and dance by Chief Bill Cranmer and the T'sasala and Gwawina group.

The Maori walked onto the territories with great respect and reverence. They considered each step, the oceans, the mountains, the sky and our ancestors. They felt our land for the first time with their bare feet and with their open hearts. Their arrival was significant for both cultures and very moving for all who were present.

During their three day stay, our Maori guests were generously hosted by several families and were shown the full range of 'Namgis hospitality. The Maori had two main performances and presentations; one at the Music Fest and the second at the Big House.

The Maori performance at Music Fest gave our community a taste of their culture as the group displayed a spectacular performance of singing and dancing in full cultural dress. The presentation in the Big House was attended by a large number of our community members as many of us wanted to be a part of the wonderful energy and exchange of singing and dancing. 'Namgis singers, drummers and dancers honoured the Maori visitors by beautifully performing a number of our songs and dances. The evening in the Big House ended with the fun dance which left love in the hearts of everyone that participated.

The purpose of the Maori exchange was to create relationships and learn from each other. The Maori call their trip "hikoi" translated meaning "walk." For the 'Namgis, this was "Maya'xalapa" – "to exchange respect".

We all grew and were energized by the Maori visit. In our interaction, our hearts were filled with pride and joy. We saw our diversity and similarities which honoured and unified each one of us. The Maori group has offered an open invitation for us to visit their homes as this is the only way they truly can show their gratitude for hosting them.

We thank the community for their hard work and generousities in making this exchange a success. For those interested in planning a trip to visit the Maori to continue our cultural exchange, please contact Massoud Moslehi at 250-974-5522.



They felt
our land
for the
first time
with their
bare feet
and with
their open
hearts.

RCMP ~ Graffiti

Graffiti or "tagging" is considered an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada of Mischief.

Anyone who commits mischief wilfully destroys or damages property; renders property dangerous, useless, inoperative or ineffective or interferes with the lawful use, enjoyment or operation of property.

If any person is found guilty, they may receive a maximum 2 years in jail and/or \$2000 fine.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given to the Electors of the 'Namgis First Nation, that a poll will be held for the election of six (6) Councillors and that such a poll will be open on the 9th day of December, 2011 (Friday) from the hours of 9am to 9pm at the 'Namgis Elders Centre.

All Candidates Meeting: Nov 22, 2011 at 6pm at the Lawrence Ambers Rec Centre

See online link at www.namgis.bc.ca

Advance Poll: Nov 25, 2011 from 9am to 9pm at the 'Namgis Elders Centre

Election Date: Dec 9, 2011 from 9am to 9pm at the 'Namgis Elders Centre

Terms Expiring/Vacant

Alfred, Gerald Arthur
Alfred, Pearl
Cook, Christopher Charles
Cranmer, Barbara Coreen
Mountain, Robert Steven
Wadhams, Brian Wayne

Candidate for Councillors

Alfred, Corinna Faith
Alfred, Gerald Arthur
Alfred, Pearl
Cook, Christopher Charles
Cranmer, Barbara Coreen
Gordon, Sharon Colleen
Hunt, Stanley Earl
Mountain, Robert Steven
Perrault, Carole Lynn
Shaughnessy, Arthur Larry
Svanvik, Jane Constance
Wadhams, Brian Wayne
Wadhams, Christine Marie

Memories with Lois Beans Matilpi

How time flies. I was 15 years old in this picture – 38 years ago. My classmates and I all had dreams and goals in life. Mine was to be a skipper of my own seine boat. I never shared that with anyone.

I would like to gather stories from everyone who went on this ten day trip and I'd like to create a booklet with pictures of "The Gold Rush Trail". We each have our own memories of our overnight stops, sleeping in many school gymnasiums.

Our families and grandchildren may giggle at us and our clothes, but our music and bell bottoms have made a comeback (or did it even leave?).

Most of us from this trip are now grandparents now. Sad to say, some have passed on (Nick Jolliffe, Alana Bullock, Les Jolliffe, Mike Stadnyk). We'll never forget our good friends.

Alert Bay School Grade 9 & 10 Field Trip to Kamloops and Prince George May 1973



Back Row : Lois Beans, Joe Brooks, Kelly Speck, Laurie Jolliffe, Randy Smith, ^{Patricia Alfred} Dean Hamilton, Gordie Mellish, Nick Jolliffe, Maxine Matilpi, Mike Stadnyk, Steve Gullstrom, Ethyl Speck, George Alfred, Mary Alfred, Wayne Alfred, Don Souch, Sherry Dykes, Don Svanvik, Roth Hickling.

Front Row : Alana Bullock, Bryan Williams, Dolly Glendale, Tony Wong, Eugene Isaac, Art Shaughnessy, Paddy Seawick, Rod Perrault, Rod Sterling (Bus Driver), Rod Scheck, Debra Scheck, Jeff Oswell, Twinkle Follington.

'Namgis Member Corner

Kelly-Ann Speck

Kelly-Ann, daughter of Pearl and Frank Alfred, has lived away from the Bay since the 1980. Prior to leaving the Bay to pursue advanced education she graduated from NISS and she was proud to be part of the establishment of the T-School. Kelly completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Victoria in 1986 and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Queen's University in 1987. Her academic work was in the area of political science, community development and economics, with a focus on public policy related to aboriginal issues.

After working on a Native Health Project in Victoria she began work with the Provincial Government in the Native Affairs Secretariat in 1989 as a researcher and policy analyst. Key projects she worked on included policy papers on self-government, specific claims and the "land claims question", as treaties were known by then. She was recognized for her work in helping the Provincial Government join the tripartite treaty process, receiving the Lt Government's Silver Medal for Excellence in Public Service in 1993.

Kelly was the first Aboriginal women appointed as an Assistant Deputy Minister in 1991 by the BC Government and during her twelve years at the executive level she worked in the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Ministry of Skills Training and Labor, Ministry of Attorney General, the BC Human Rights Commission and the BC Transportation and Financing Authority.

She was appointed to the Parole Board of Canada as the Vice-Chair Pacific Region in 2003 and will complete her term in 2013. She is a voting board member for conditional release decisions, responsible for professional development of board members in the Pacific Region and sits on the Board's national executive. Kelly has continued her commitment to advancing aboriginal issues and is the chair of the Aboriginal Circle, an advisory body to the Board on how to best meet the reintegration needs of aboriginal offenders in the decision making processes of the Board, support to aboriginal victims of crime and outreach to communities.

Kelly is very interested in the process of treaty negotiations and looks forward to the possibility that her skills and experiences can contribute to community discussions and the future development of the 'Namgis Nation.



Kelly was the first Aboriginal women appointed as an Assistant Deputy Minister



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