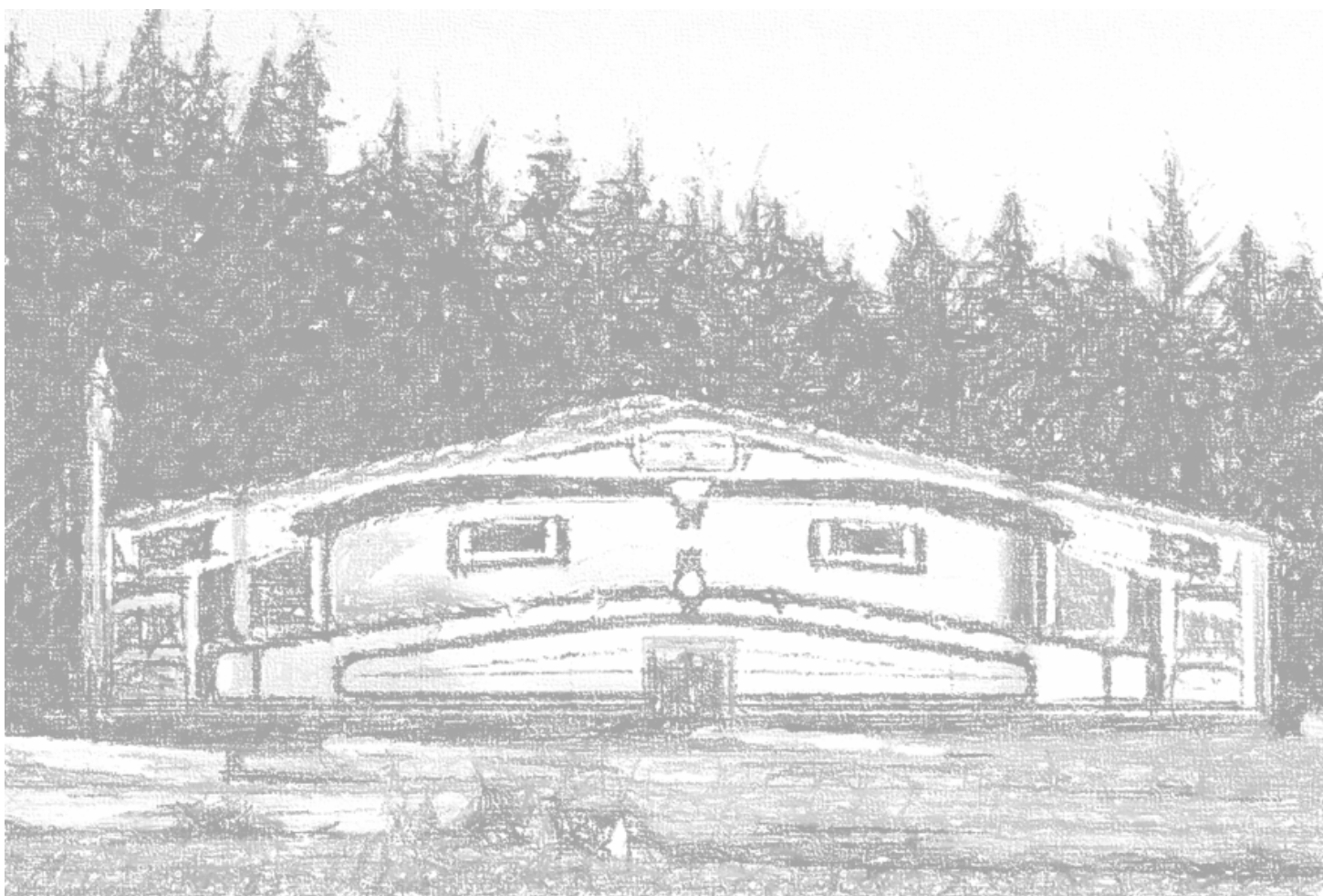


2020 'KALA'MAS

'**NAMGIS** NEWS
May/Kamk'amdzak'wanx

INSIDE:

- Welcome Home Melanie Alfred
- Natural Resources: Forestry & Archaeology
- COVID Antibody Testing
- Broughton Aquaculture Transition Initiative
- Nimpkish River
- Post Secondary
- Alert Bay Niss Grads 2020
- Poster Contest
- Salmon Enhancement Update
- Firearms Prohibition





'NAMGIS
FIRST NATION

Based on a foundation of culture, the 'Namgis First Nation Council will strive to create a self-governing, prosperous, healthy community with a strong, self-sustaining economy so that every member has the opportunity to achieve their highest potential.

BAND OFFICE:
250-974-5556

TOLL FREE:
1-888-9NAMGIS
(1-888-962-6447)

FAX:
250-974-5900

EMAIL:
info@namgis.bc.ca

www.namgis.bc.ca

HOURS OF OPERATION:
Monday to Friday 8am to 4:30pm

'NAMGIS COUNCIL

CHIEF:
Donald Svanvik

COUNCIL:
John Macko
Ernest Alfred
Jerry Alfred
Kelly Speck
Stanley Hunt
Victor Isaac
Robert Mountain
Dixon Taylor
Vickie Brothie

Chief Don Svanvik



Hello Alert Bay!

I hope you are well. I want to again thank everyone for the love and respect shown while we were in the state of emergency. Though our local state of emergency is no longer in place, we still must be careful. On Wednesday, May 27th, the province announced a two-week extension for the provincial state of emergency.

Even though we can expand our circle, we must continue to protect ourselves and our families.

We still stay home as much as we can and continue to wash our hands a lot and continue physical distancing. We know it works.

If you must travel, please be careful. We do not know how long the threat of COVID-19 will be with us. The health experts say there will be a second wave. We cannot get complacent about this virus, so let's stay careful.

Thank you to Shop Rite and the Drug Store for helping us weather this storm.

Thank you to our health care workers for standing between us and the COVID-19 virus, we are truly grateful.

I know I can speak for all of us in thanking the Tlo-o-qui-aht Nation for their gift of halibut and red snapper and to the Homalco Nation for their gift of meat ~ what fantastic gifts from truly great people.

Thank you to the everyone who came down to help clean, package and deliver the fish. You made an awesome day way more awesome with your community spirit.

To everyone, take care and stay healthy.

THANK
YOU  **TO THE HELPERS.**



'Namgis Dental Clinic

P.O. BOX 388, ALERT BAY, BC V0N 1A0 • PHONE: (250) 974-5205 • FAX (250) 974-5237

May 11, 2020

As per a recommendation, the 'Namgis Dental Clinic is not providing elective dental treatment. Our office is closed until further notice.

The next phase of BC's COVID-19 response anticipates more access to dental services under enhanced protocols. This means patients should be able to look forward to increased access to in-person elective care in a safe environment in the coming months.

Call 250-974-5205 and leave a message with any questions.

If you have an urgent Dental Emergency, please go to your nearest Hospital Emergency Department.

- Practice good oral hygiene. Brush your teeth at least twice a day and floss once a day to remove plaque and bacteria that can cause cavities and gum disease.
- Eat a well-balanced diet and avoid sugar. Healthy foods are good for your general health and oral health.
- Drinking water is important for your health and it helps keep you hydrated. Make water the easy choice even during these challenging times. Keep a pitcher of water on the table or in the fridge for easy access.

Nimpkish River Fishery Portfolio Holders and Hank Nelson

Due to COVID-19 virus concerns, we are not sure if the DIDSON counting fence will be put in this year. Hopefully, it will be determined safe to put it in. If not, we will rely on our very capable hatchery crew to do fish counts by swimming our river to determine our harvest amount. The Band has a scale based on escapement that determines the number taken.

We will still have COVID-19 virus considerations to safely fish our river. These are being developed now and can be adjusted when we have direction from our health care professionals.

We would like to remind everyone that when our river is open for fishing, it is for the benefit of our community as a whole – not for individuals.

If you have any ideas on how we can improve our harvest, please let us know.

Thank you!

Thank You Alert Bay! Message from RCMP



The Alert Bay RCMP would like to thank everyone for their continued efforts during the Covid 19 Pandemic. We would like to remind everyone how important it is to take care of your Mental Health especially during the outbreak of Covid 19 and thereafter. The RCMP's Mental Health week was May 4-8 but we would like to encourage everyone to continue to practice ways to help yourself with self care for your mental health. While we are making great progress and continue to practice social distancing, you can still find ways to stay connected to your friends and family through phone calls, texting to face timing and other social media outlets. Also, get outside, enjoy the fresh air. Take a walk, go for a bike ride or even a dip in the ocean! Be kind to one another, we are all in this together. Thank you!

Post Secondary Deane Wadhams

Hello students, I hope you are all managing through our pandemic and all educational arrangements that your institute has provided to you is working.

You have completed your winter semester so I should be receiving all your transcripts. I understand that we are not able to get your Official Transcript, so you can go to your account and pull your final grades off of there and email to our office. Please ensure that the transcript has the Institute name as well as yours on the front page. I am receiving unofficial copies with just grades showing so please have the necessary information on it. There are many of you who have not sent in your copies, if you are continuing in September, a transcript from the last term must be in your file or funding will be on hold until it is received. If it comes to us late you may miss the opportunity to pick your classes because we will not be sending in sponsor letters either. We are trying to work around COVID-19 and some problems that may come up but a call or email can help us work together at getting it solved.

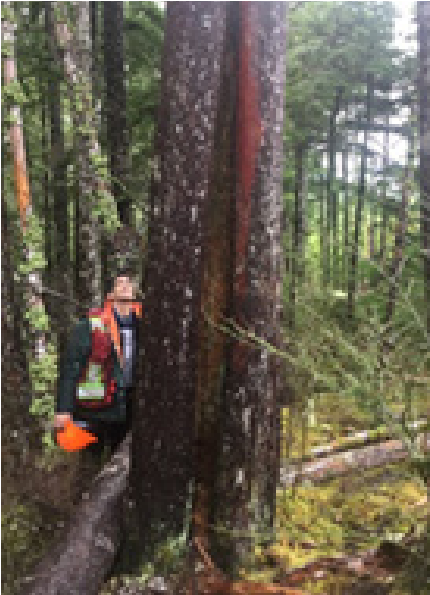
I will say again, ALWAYS stay in contact with me and our office. I have had some emails regarding different issues but not hearing from you leaves both you and I at odds and not being able to resolve your concerns. So continue to let us know how you are coping with your studies.

Thank you, stay safe.



Natural Resource Department Forestry

Forestry Information



CMT at Storey Creek

‘Namgis Natural Resources Department has begun to be more closely involved in Forest Development in Western Forest Products (WFP) in Tree Farm License 37 (TFL37). Until recently Namgis CMT crew performed CMT surveys after cut-blocks had been laid out, with limited input into planning.

We are embarking on collaborative planning with WFP, where ‘Namgis field crew are the first to walk proposed cut blocks on the ground, and then ‘Namgis Natural Resources Department engages with WFP planners regarding management of multiple forest values ie: fish streams, rare plants, and cultural wood, in addition to Cultural Heritage Resources/Archaeology. This initiative will also open opportunities for field crew to be involved in a wider variety of surveys in addition to Cultural Heritage Resources/Archaeology, such as fish creeks and Karst, and the lay out of the cut-blocks, once we have the proper training and mentorship in place.

Archaeology



Possible stone tool
Bonanza Lake

2020 started with exciting finds for our Culturally Modified Tree (CMT) Crew. The crew found dozens of old bark harvest trees on Malcolm Island near Maynell Point. While ‘Namgis historically occupied multiple areas of Malcolm Island, there are few registered Archaeological Sites due to very few archaeological investigations happening on the island. ‘Namgis archaeologists registered 7 new Archaeological sites containing 108 CMTs.

The CMT crew also found more evidence of cultural use on the Southeast side of Nimpkish Lake, and North of Nimpkish Lake Provincial Park.

Further finds in a second growth forest with CMTs and possible stone tools were made around the south-west side of Bonanza Lake. We are planning archaeological work for this area to determine if these sites can be registered with the BC Archaeological Branch, which provides them special protections under the Provincial Heritage Conservation Act.

Broughton Aquaculture Transition Initiative

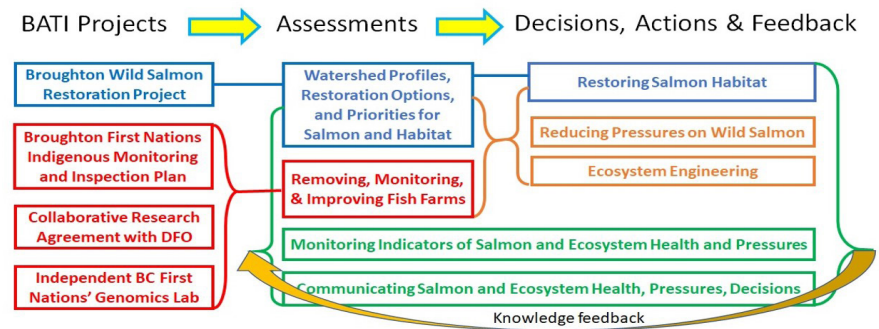


Figure 1. A summarized diagram of the Broughton Aquaculture Transition Initiative. Color coding represents the continuity of the four partially integrated projects. The two project clusters (blue and red) have the same objectives of (1) restoring salmon habitat, (2) reducing pressures on wild salmon, (3) monitoring indicators of salmon and ecosystem health, and (4) communication. The depicted knowledge feedback arrow represents a learning loop that is an essential aspect of adaptive management and policy development.

Toward a Wild Salmon Future in the Broughton Area

Dr. Tom Okey, First Nations Coordinator / Director, Broughton Aquaculture Transition Initiative; Email: Tom.Okey@namgis.bc.ca; Mobile: (250) 974-8233

The 'Namgis First Nation, in partnership with the Kwikwasut'Inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation and the Mamalilikulla First Nation, has entered into agreements with the Province of British Columbia and two salmon aquaculture companies—Mowi Canada West and Cermaq Canada—to reduce or phase out ocean-based finfish aquaculture in the Broughton Area by 2023. Fisheries and Oceans Canada is also involved in this collaboration by providing technical information and administering Federal funding.

Three projects funded through the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF) are currently underway through the Broughton Aquaculture Transition Initiative (BATI), with an office at the Cormorant Island Community Learning Centre. These projects include (1) a 'Wild Salmon Restoration Project' focused on eight watersheds of priority to

the three involved First Nations and (2) an 'Indigenous Monitoring and Inspection Program' focused on monitoring the operations and ecological health effects of the remaining salmon farms in the defined Broughton Area.

Members of the three partner First Nations are staffing these projects and serving as ambassadors to these science-based projects and collaborations, along with additional technical experts from within and outside of Broughton Area communities.

A third BCSRIF project is the development of an 'Independent BC First Nations Genomics Laboratory', which will provide First Nations with advanced capacities to detect and monitor pathogens associated with salmon farms, in addition to detecting escaped salmon in watersheds and a broad spectrum of additional applications useful for ecosystem-based management of natural resources.

This third project is being developed in collaboration with the Okanagan Nation Alliance, in whose territory this cutting-edge laboratory will be located, as well as with genomics researchers at Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Pacific Salmon Foundation through a fourth 'Collaborative Research Agreement' project.

The overall ecological goal of this Broughton Aquaculture Transition Initiative is the recovery of wild Pacific salmon populations, and the overall social-cultural-economic goal is community stability and prosperity. The initiative is described in the inaugural newsletter of the BATI Program and is summarized in the diagram provided here [Figure 1].

COVID Antibody Testing

Dr. Enns, Medical Health Officer
North Vancouver Island

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on individuals, families and the larger community of Cormorant Island. 15% of the population on Cormorant Island have had a swab to test for COVID-19 with most of those swabbed having a negative result. The swab test looks for the actual virus and will only be positive if someone is tested while they are sick with COVID-19. There are blood tests now available that can detect a person's immune response to COVID-19 infection by measuring antibodies. This information can help understand how many people in a community were infected even if they were not tested for the COVID-19 when they were sick or had mild or no symptoms. It can help households that had a case of COVID-19 understand if others in the household were infected even if they seemed well. The antibody testing can also be used to help in understanding if you have ongoing protection/immunity to COVID-19.

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) Public Health Laboratory is comparing different types of tests (fingerprick with results back in 15 minutes or blood samples which involve a blood draw) to determine which type of test would be the most accurate. Those results should be available in the next two weeks. I will provide the community with those results plus the benefits and limitations of the different types of tests so that the community can select which test will be the best at providing the information you would like to have. The goal is to have the antibody test available to the community, for those who want to be tested, before the end of June.

In Health, Dr. Enns

Senior Administrator

Jamie Hill

Congratulations to Jamie Hill! New Senior Administrator for 'Namgis First Nation.

Jamie is honoured to assume his new role. He recognizes that there has been much progress on social and economic issues but acknowledges that there is still plenty of work to be done and he knows the important role that staff play in supporting Council to tackle issues. Jamie continues to work hard in his role to support Council.

In the meantime, we must focus our energies on responding to and getting beyond the pandemic.



Salmon Enhancement Update with Hank Nelson

Gwa'ni Hatchery is central to the enhancement efforts within the Nimpkish Watershed. Much of the activities performed at the hatchery and watershed are in sync with the life cycles of the salmon within the watershed and estuary. Species enhanced by the hatchery are sockeye, chinook and chum.

Sockeye Enhancement – Lake fertilization has been the method used to enhance sockeye as it doesn't require handling the fish. The sockeye as fry, until they smolt, benefit from the phyto plankton and zoo plankton that are sequentially enhanced by the application of the fertilizer into Woss Lake. This current year's fertilization started late, on May 22nd due to the COVID-19 threat. The lake fertilization activity is scheduled to be done two times per week for 20 weeks. Sockeye smolts from 2018 are being trapped as well and sampled to see what size the sockeye smolts are leaving and heading downstream to the estuary. 300 smolts are required as part of lake fertilization.

Chinook Enhancement- Broodstock Capture and Egg-takes took place in November 2019. Eggs were placed in heath trays until eyed and thermal marked and moved out into bulk incubators in January 2020. In March, the chinook emerged as swimming fry and were put into Swedish tubs and fed. Tubs were cleaned regularly and morts were removed when needed. Water flows and dissolved oxygen were measured regularly.

On April 29th, Thane Alfred and Henry Nelson gravity transported 36,113 juvenile chinook at 3.6 grams from Swedish Tub #1 into the large transport tank, drove in two trucks and released the fish into Woss Lake. In the next two days, 134,293 juvenile chinook from three other tubs were released.

At 2am on May 27th, Phil Alfred removed the bottom screen of Swedish Tub # 5 and released 33,920 juvenile chinook at 5.2 grams into the river at the Hatchery Beach outflow. There are still 94,010 still being reared to be released in two weeks.

Chum Enhancement - second year of experiment transplanting eyed chum eggs from the Puntledge Hatchery to the Gwa'ni River and rearing them utilizing the Alaskan Ocean Ranching style rearing practice. First sign of bad luck, leading up to the COVID-19 shut down was the aluminum pen used to transport chum fry from the river to net pens was released from the lower Nimpkish River. It was discovered missing the day the hired engineers came to get final measurements for the extra floats. One cannot imagine how embarrassed Manager Nelson was. Fortunately, it has been found by a pilot friend of Stacey Larsen's. Stacey is our go-to Project Coordinator.

River Release Chum Releases at night high tides commenced on April 7th, and again on April 16th. Total released to the river from this group was 786,754 at an average weight of 1 gram.

Bad luck continued to the eventual decision based on the discussions with various levels of DFO representatives and our Administration. Advice was to quickly release the chum that were supposed to be Net Pen Released. This allowed staff to go home to isolate from the threat of COVID-19 virus. On April 17th, 18th and 19th, Thane Alfred released 7 troughs with 309,905 chum fry between 1.26 – 1.4 grams.

On April 20th, Manager Nelson sent the staff home and would self-isolate at the hatchery for 14 days.

That night after midnight and the next two nights, Manager Nelson released 11 cap troughs for a total of 488,092 chum fry.

Dual Frequency Identification Sonar - DIDSON
Another program with significant importance is the installation of the floating fence panels to create a blocking weir on one channel of the Island upstream of the hatchery. The other panels would create a weir on the other side with a gap 20 meters between to allow fish passage where a DIDSON Counter will count adult sockeye swimming past that point to go to the upper watershed to ultimately spawn. This will provide DFO with escapement numbers in their managing of the resource. These numbers give us a tool to exercise due diligence to stick to the number of sockeye to harvest based on a Harvest Scale developed by our own managers, accepted by the 'Namgis Nation and DFO. We as a nation must always show we can manage the resource jointly.

Nelson experienced many emotions during 14 days in isolation at the hatchery. Knowing the virus came to Alert Bay, hearing the awful sounding Tsunami alarm and curfew announcement was frightening and knowing community members experienced first-hand what it was like to be sick with COVID-19, and knowing a relative, who we laughed and had fun with, died because of this. Fear for our future, for our culture, sadness for our loved ones, our children.

Many thanks to the brave front-line workers in the world and close to us. Special thanks to those on our island who provided support for those in need. We know who they are. Give them a smile and a wave until one day again we can give them a hug.

T'lisalagi'lakw School

Words from the Principal



Gilakas'da'xw'la Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

I am glad to have an opportunity to provide an update on the status of T'lisalagi'lakw School. To begin, let me again thank our front-line workers for their commitment and

dedication during this time. I also want to thank our health care team, EOC crew and senior leadership for their guidance throughout the past few months. It was very uplifting to see how the community came together to reduce the number of COVID-19 cases from 30 to zero.

As many of you are aware, on May 15th Chief and Council decided to suspend in-class instruction until September. Considering recent events, I believe that this was the right choice and the safe choice. During the interim our school will be able to properly prepare for when we welcome back all our students.

I am very proud of our teaching staff in how they have handled this transition and in how each of them has supported families. This support will continue until the end of June. Our support staff has also done an excellent job of reaching out and helping when asked. As we learn more about COVID-19 we have more options and can support student learning in different ways. In the past week we have expanded our efforts by offering on-site student assistance which has been very successful.

Recently there has been a great deal of planning and coordination at the school as we begin thinking about next year. Our health and safety committee has been meeting regularly to develop a COVID-19 Safety

Plan based on recommendations from both WorkSafeBC, The Provincial Health Officer and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC). Our school plan will be shared out with the school community as soon as we are able to ensure that we have a document that is based both on best practice and the most up to date scientific research. This will be a comprehensive document detailing all school aspects – ranging from safety, to instruction, to transportation.

In the meantime, families can expect to receive another food voucher as we remain committed to supporting our food programs. Report cards will be mailed out to families at the end of June and final marks will not be negatively impacted due to the pandemic. Our teaching staff is in the process of coordinating a way to ensure that all student belongings are returned to families in the next while.

A huge thank you to all who have supported student learning during this time. School staff have missed all our students dearly and I hope that all of you have managed to share some fun learning opportunities over the past while. To the parents and guardians especially, I sincerely hope that all of you take a moment to do something for yourself, something restorative to 'fill your cup.' Self-care during a pandemic can be difficult and it can make a huge impact when trying to both parent and teach children. There is a lot going on and you are doing great.

I will finish with a quote from John Holt, "please keep in mind that children learn from anything and everything that they see. They learn wherever they are, not just in special learning places."

Gilakas'la, Shane Douglas Principal,
T'lisalagi'lakw School

*Please join us on our different school Facebook groups as we communicate updates regularly

Service Canada Access during COVID-19

Access to Programs, Benefits and Services during Covid-19

For information on all Government of Canada programs and services, please visit: [Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca)

For citizens that do not have access to the internet and require assistance accessing services, please contact the Service Canada Outreach Support Centre at: 1-877-631-2657

In-Person Services > Closed

All Service Canada Centres have closed until further notice. Outreach visits to remote communities have also been temporarily stopped. Service Canada will share widely when in-person services are ready to resume. While offices are closed, citizens may submit an online service request form on the Service Canada website and receive a call back within 2 business days at <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/portfolio/service-canada.html>

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) > 1-833-966-2099

If you stopped working because of COVID-19 (for example if your workplace closed, you started feeling sick, or you didn't feel safe reporting to work), the Canada Emergency Response Benefit can help. The CERB provides \$500 a week for up to 16 weeks.

To apply, visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html> and scroll down to the bottom of the page. If you have questions, you can call the Automated help-line at 1-833-966-2099.

If you don't have access to the internet, you can apply by telephone at: 1-800-959-2019 or 1-800-959-2041.

Employment Insurance (EI)

EI is an insurance payment paid to workers who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. For detailed information

on the various benefits available under the Employment Insurance program, visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei.html>

If you were out of work as of March 15 or later, and you already applied for EI, your application will automatically be assessed to see if you are eligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

If you were eligible for EI before March 15, or you are applying for EI Maternity, Parental, Fishing, Compassionate care and Family caregiver benefits, you can apply on-line: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei.html>

For questions regarding Employment Insurance, contact the EI call centre at 1-800-206-7218.

Remember: Apply as soon as possible after you stop working. Don't wait for your Record of Employment (ROE). Note: A medical certificate is no longer required for EI claims beginning March 15, 2020 or later.

Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

As a Canadian employer whose business has been affected by COVID-19, you may be eligible for a subsidy of 75% of employee wages for up to 12 weeks, retroactive from March 15, 2020, to June 6, 2020. This wage subsidy will enable you to re-hire workers previously laid off as a result of COVID-19, help prevent further job losses, and better position you to resume normal operations following the crisis.

For more information, visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy.html> or call 1-800-959-5525

Canada Child Benefit (CCB)

The CCB is a monthly payment to Canadian parents and guardians who are taking care of children under the age of 18. Starting in May, CCB payments will be \$300 more per child. For information, visit: <https://www.canada.ca>

[ca/.../canada-child-benefit-overview.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/social-development/services/sin.html)

If you previously applied for or received the CCB, you don't need to re-apply. For more information on the Canada Child Benefit, call 1-800-387-1193.

Pensions (Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security)

Service Canada is strongly encouraging you to apply for these benefits online. To apply, or for additional information, visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions.html> or call the Pension Call Centre at 1-800-277-9914.

You won't be required to submit documentation to support your application at this time. Service Canada may be requesting these documents at a later date, but in the meantime, we can begin working on your application.

Passport Services

Canadians with urgent travel needs may obtain passport services if they:

- have a serious illness, or must tend to the serious illness or death of another individual they have had a relationship with;
- suffer from economic hardships due to loss of job or business; or
- must travel for humanitarian grounds.

If you meet one of the above criteria, you may contact the Passport Call Centre at 1-800-567-6868 or fill out the Service Canada e-form.

If you do not meet the above criteria, please delay submitting your passport application until further notice.

Social Insurance Number (SIN)

If you don't remember your SIN, you may be able to find it on your income tax return; tax slips (T4s, T5); Record of Employment; or you can request your SIN from your employer.

Service Canada is only accepting online or mail SIN applications right now. If it's not urgent,

please wait for our Service Canada Centres to reopen before applying. You will need to attach a note explaining why the request is urgent to your application. For more information, visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin.html>.

Service Canada – Ready to Help

Our priority is the health and safety of all Canadians, while maintaining service to the public. In response to COVID-19, all in person Service Canada Centres are closed until further notice. In the meantime, Service Canada has measures in place to ensure critical service delivery to vulnerable clients.

If you need help accessing critical benefits, you can complete a service request form at: [Canada.ca/service-canada-e-service](https://www.canada.ca/service-canada-e-service). Once the service request is submitted, a Service Canada representative will contact you within 2 business days.

If you do not have access to a computer or need more support, you can get help by calling the Service Canada Outreach Support Centre at 1-877-631-2657. Outreach workers are available to help from 8:30am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

DUCHESS' BANNOCK & DESSERTS

Open for pick-up/take out service only



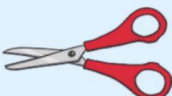


Indian Tacos	\$10
Bannock & Berries	\$5/small \$10/large
Bannock Hotdogs	\$5
add bacon	\$1
add cheese	\$1
Bannock - large	\$5

Phone 250-974-8216 to place order
Cash only - exact payment appreciated
Orders can be picked up at the door

Watch for daily specials

Hours: 11am to 3pm

Kwakwala Pewi

K'ADAYU 	K'IK'ADAYU 
DI'YU 	DI'DI'YU 
GWAGWA'Ł 	GWI'GWAGWA'Ł 
k'ada'mit 	k'ik'ada'mit 
K'ABAYU 	k'ik'abayu 
k'wadayu 	k'wik'wadayu 
manyayu 	mi'manyayu 

Ways to Handle Stress & Anxiety

Learn our language

Talk to our Elders

Listen to and learn our songs

Practice our dances

Read up on our history/origin stories,
legends

Learn cultural skills

(sewing, medicine making, cedar bark
weaving).

Practice drawing



Welcome Home! Melanie Alfred



Hi everyone, my name is Melanie Alfred and I have recently been hired on as the social worker with K'wak'walat'si Child and Family Services. I was born and raised in Alert Bay and my parents are Byron and Diane Alfred.

I moved away from Alert Bay in 2005 and travelled for a number of years, as I was unsure of what it is I wanted to do as a career. Eventually, I enrolled into school and completed a Bachelor Degree in Child and Youth Care from the University of Victoria in 2015 with a specialization in Child Protection.

In 2015, I moved to Vancouver, BC and started working as a child protection social worker with Vancouver Aboriginal Child and Family Services. I remained in this role for 3 years, assessing risk, working with families and their communities. In 2018, I was seconded to the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) to work as the social worker for Sheway: A pregnancy outreach program on the DTES. In this position, I supported women who were dealing with substance misuse in connecting with social workers to engage in various situations such as: early referrals, advocacy, meetings, supervising visits, court etc.,. In this position, I would consider myself liaison between the women and their social workers, as well as, the consultation person for the Sheway staff regarding safety concerns, assessing risk and how the CFCSA worked. I have deep connection to the Sheway Program, as it is where I grew the most in my practice. Sheway has such a positive impact within the DTES community and I feel very honoured and privileged to visit, laugh, cry and welcome all the new mother's and babies within that program.

During my time in Vancouver, I noticed the lack of involvement by most Indigenous communities and leadership, as well as, the lack of connectedness between the families, their communities and their culture. Near the end of my time in Vancouver, more and more Indigenous communities were becoming involved and starting to incorporate their vision and demanding a seat at the table when discussing care plans and long-term planning for their children. This was a motivating factor in wanting to come home and work with our community and nation.

In January of this year, the federal government implemented Bill C-92: An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families, which establishes: a national minimum standards for child and family service delivery for all child and families and it is the first statute to recognize inherent Indigenous jurisdiction over CFS as an Aboriginal right in Canada. When this act became in effect, I decided that I wanted to come home and work with our community on how we can become more involved with child welfare organizations working with our children and families within our own home community, but also for our urban members.

I am excited to be back home and look forward to the future.

Thank you, Melanie

Membership Clerk DeeDee Alfred

'Namgis First Nation Membership Department

Due to the Covid 19 epidemic the
Membership Department is CLOSED

Until further notice

Sorry for the Inconvenience

Please feel free to call
DeeDee if you have any
questions.

250-974-5556



Health Coverage for Children

The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) expanded their health coverage for children in 2019. They are now covered under their registered parent(s) until they reach 18 months old, which is up from 12 months.

For more information:

<https://www.fnha.ca/benefits/health-benefits-new/first-nations-health-benefits-expands-infant-eligibility-to-18-months>

Best Practices Surround Status Cards

All Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) for Indian status and secure status card applications are closed until further notice. Processing times, including return of original documents, are delayed.

In light of these circumstances, ISC is recommending to service providers that they should accept status cards or Temporary Confirmation of Registration Documents (TCRDs) past the renewal date with a second piece of identification. ISC will be reaffirming to businesses and service providers that Indian status does not expire, and that the registration number provided on these documents remains the same and is what is required to confirm eligibility for programs and services.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF A FIREARMS PROHIBITION

On May 1, 2020, the Government of Canada reclassified the following firearms and devices as prohibited:

- **Nine (9) types of firearms by make and model, and their variants;**
- **Firearms with a bore of 20 mm or greater, and those capable of discharging a projectile with a muzzle energy greater than 10,000 Joules;**
- **Upper receivers of M16, AR-10, AR-15 and M4 pattern firearms.**

As the holder of a valid firearms licence, you are being contacted by the Canadian Firearms Program as you may be in possession of one of these firearms.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU:

1. An amnesty has been introduced which protects owners who were in legal possession of one or more of these newly prohibited firearms or devices on the day the amendments to the Classification Regulations came into force, May 1, 2020.
2. The Government intends to implement a buy-back program and is looking at a range of options. More information on the buy-back program will be available at a later date.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THESE FIREARMS/DEVICES:

1. Owners of newly prohibited firearms are to keep them securely stored in accordance with their previous classification.
2. They cannot be sold or imported.
3. They may only be transported under limited circumstances.
4. They cannot be legally used for hunting unless allowed through the Amnesty Order.*
5. They cannot be used for sport shooting, either at a range or elsewhere.

*Exceptions are included under the Amnesty Order to allow for the continued use of the newly prohibited firearms and/or devices (if previously non-restricted) by individuals who hunt or trap to sustain themselves or their families, and by Indigenous persons exercising Aboriginal or treaty rights to hunt. At the end of the amnesty period, all firearm owners must comply with the new law.

WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS?

1. **Wait** for further instructions to participate in the buy-back program.
2. Have your firearm deactivated by an approved business.
3. Legally export your firearm, in which case individuals can engage businesses with the proper firearms privileges.

MORE INFORMATION:

For a list of newly prohibited firearms and information about the announcement or amnesty, go to the Canadian Firearms Program website:

www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Canada 

'Namgis Community Services Update

The 'Namgis Community Services Department staff are currently on rotating shifts or working from home. If you need services, please call a head at (250) 974-5356. NCS Staff will be in the office on the following days:

Reception:

- Vina Glendale Monday & Wednesday

Income Assistance:

- Ashley Alfred Monday & Tuesday
- Agate Miljour Wednesday & Thursday

K'wak'walatsi Child & Family Services:

- Melanie Alfred Monday to Friday
8:30 am-4:30 pm

Family & Youth Support:

- Jamie Hunt Tuesday

Working from home: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday call (250) 974-8295

Victim Services/Legal Aid Services:

- Sharon Leas Friday

Working from home: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday call (250) 974-8025

Youth Mentor:

- Emily Garriott

Working from home: Monday to Thursday call (250) 974-4491

Acting Director NCS:

- Diane Alfred: In office Monday to Friday

Low Income Family Immediate Needs Program

The LIFIN Program provides a nutritious food program to students attending the T'lisagilakw School, Alert Bay Elementary, North Island Secondary School and the Amlilas Daycare.

In June, all children and youth attending school and the Amlilas Daycare will receive 2 deliveries of food and snacks. Parents will be contacted for pick up. Please contact Diane

Alfred at (250) 974-5356 or Dorothy Svanvik at (250) 974-8366 for more information.

Head Start Parents & Tots Program

The Head Start Parents and Tots Program is closed until further notice. The staff continue to provide:

- Families with regular attendance a \$10.00/day food coupon,
- Activities for you and your children to enjoy together

These will continue to be delivered every Monday. The staff will honk, wait for you to signal you are home and will bring to your door and walk away. If you are not home, contact the staff to make arrangement to pick up coupons and activities.

Updates

In May, the Head Start Staff started an Outreach program with 2 families. The staff take the families out in the community to do activities or do activities in the family's yard for 1.5 hours/week.

The Hot Lunch Program is suspended until further notice.

For more information, please contact the staff at (250) 974-5510, by text at (250) 974- 8518, Messenger, Amlilas Facebook Page or by email: renee.windsor@namgis.bc.ca; angela.brown@namgis.bc.ca; sophia.cook@namgis.bc.ca

Amlilas Daycare

The Amlilas Daycare Program is closed until further notice. We are no longer accepting any children until we have flattened the curve. The daycare staff will contact parent/guardians when a date is confirmed. Staff continue to deliver every Monday:

- Activities for you and your child/ren to enjoy together
- Snacks for the month

For more information, please contact the staff at (250) 974-5510, by text at (250) 974-8518, Messenger, Amlilas Facebook Page or by email: renee.windsor@namgis.bc.ca; angela.brown@namgis.bc.ca; sophia.cook@namgis.bc.ca

Updates

In May, the Amlilas Staff started an Outreach program with 4 children. The staff take each child out and do activities with them for 1 hour/week.

Aboriginal Infant Development Program

The Aboriginal Infant Development Program is operating the program through telephone calls, email, and text messages. Please contact:

Charlene Harse, Team Leader at (250) 974-5556 ext.3221 or Cell at (250) 974-7188 or email at charlene.harse@namgis.bc.ca

Yvonne Wilson, AIDP Consultant at (250) 974-7073 or by email at yvonne.wilson@namgis.bc.ca

Brenda Macqueen, AIDP Consultant at (250) 974-7059 or by email at Brenda.macqueen@namgis.bc.ca

Lawrence Ambers Memorial Recreation Centre Afterschool Program - The Afterschool Program is closed until further notice. The program staff will contact parents when a date has been confirmed to re-open the program. For more information please contact

Dorothy Svanvik at (250) 974-8386 or by email at dorothy.svanvik@namgis.bc.ca .

Summer Day Camp Program

The staff are in the process of determining if there will be a Summer Daycare Camp Program for July and August at the Lawrence Ambers Memorial Recreation Centre.

POSTER CONTEST

OLD COURTHOUSE POSTER CONTEST

THEME: What makes Cormorant Island special?

Rules:

1. 4 age groups:
 - 6 and under
 - 7 to 12
 - 13-19
 - 20+
2. Size: Minimum 8X10 - Maximum 24x36
3. Medium: painting, drawing, photos, collage, poem, combination
4. Deadline for entries is June 15, 2020
5. Bring your poster to 125 Fir Street
Put in box on the front porch
Ring doorbell and leave.
Clearly print name, age and phone number on back.
We are still practicing social distancing
6. Prizes are \$50 gift cards (random draw) each age group
7. A photo of each entry will be posted in Alert Bay Events. We hope to display all entries at some point
8. This is ALL the information you need.
Please don't phone or knock on the door.
9. Please share this with Friends & Family



Grad Class of 2020

North Island Secondary School: NISS



*Tamika
Mountain*



*Jordan
Jolliffe*



*Destiny
Speck*



*Daysha
McKinney*



*Jessica
Stauffer*



*Devery
Svanvik*

Congratulations! We are so happy that you've achieved this milestone. You've been anticipating this for many years. Did you ever think, ever in your life that you would be graduating during a global pandemic? You did it ~ with this additional obstacle in your path. Reach for the stars! There is nothing that you cannot do. We are all cheering you on as you take the next step in your life. Keep the faith, keep on moving forward!



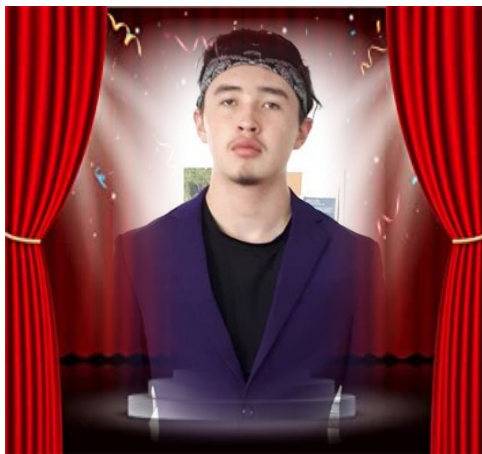
*Brennan
Sawyer*



*Justin
Smith*



*Skylar
Driscoll*



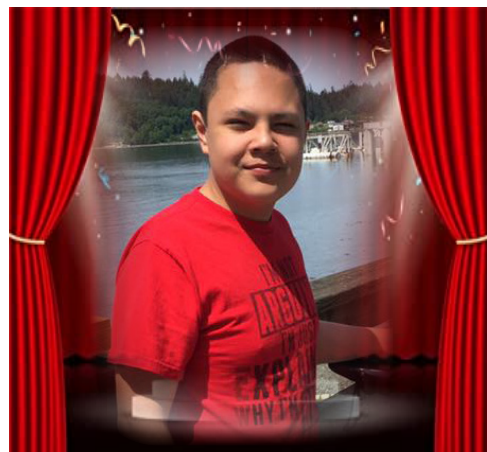
*Keith
Dawson*



*Josh
Stauffer*



*Jacob
Williams*



*Ethan
Thomas*

*Class
of*
2020

Crisis Contacts

Emergency Numbers

Emergency 911 – RCMP, Fire, Ambulance

RCMP Non-emergency 250-974-5544

Fire, Ambulance Non-emergency 250-974-5332

Cormorant Island Health Centre 250-974-5585

Online and phone crisis lines:

Alert Bay - A&D Crisis line 250-974-8015

Kuu-us Crisis Services 1-800-588-8717

Canada Wide texting line; text TALK to message 686868

Youth specific

Ministry of Child & Youth 310-1234

K'wakwalatsi Child & Family Services 250-974-8469

Youth line (1-866-661-3311)

Online chat www.youthinbc.com (available from 12 PM -1 AM)

Chat online services from 6 PM to 10 PM www.vicrisis.ca (click on “Chat Now”)

Children specific

Kids Helpline 1-800-668-6868

www.kidshelpphone.ca

General (Medical questions)

811 (Health Link BC – May direct you to mental health services)

Port Hardy Public Health 250-902-6071

Victim Link BC

(1-800-563-0808), if hearing impaired call (1-604-875-0885)

This is a general line for anyone that is a victim of crime (domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, elder abuse or neglect, dating violence, dealing with the sudden death of a loved one and break and enter)

Crisis Lines:

Kuu-Us Crisis Line

1 – 800-588-8717

Child & Youth Line:

1-250-723-2040

A & D On call Line

250-974-8015