



Canyon Current

“Increasing Knowledge Together for a Better Tomorrow”

Volume 4 - Issue 17 April-May 2012

Deconstructing the Indian Act



Manny Jules addressed the crowd at the Kitselas Hall on April 13th 2012 during a community dinner and discussion dubbed 'Deconstructing the Indian Act'. Photo Morris Mason

'Deconstructing the Indian Act', a community dinner and discussion held April 13th 2012 at the Kitselas Hall, was the third in a series of community engagements on the coming Agreement-in-Principle. Guest speaker Manny Jules, Chief Commissioner of the First Nations Tax Commission, shared with the crowd his experiences over the years in challenging the Indian Act and how First Nations in Canada are leading the way for indigenous people in the America's who aim to model the reconciliation of their rights after the efforts made here at home. *MORE INSIDE...*

IN THIS ISSUE:

In the Community P. 2

Education News P. 4

Employment & Training News P. 5

Hub Creates New Opportunities P. 6

Deconstructing the Indian Act P. 7

In the Community

Kitselas Administration Community Meeting May 22nd 2012 at Kitselas Hall. Dinner at 5 pm Meeting from 6 - 9 pm.

Community members will receive departmental reports in advance of this meeting, stay tuned for more information as this date nears.

'Why Treaty?: Settling the Land Question' Dinner & Discussion May 17th 2012 at 5:00 pm - Kitselas Hall

Modern Treaties are about settling the land claims issue for Native people. This meeting will discuss why this is important and what a treaty means for the next generation. Transportation available on request. Call 250.635.8882 for more info.

Kitselas Elders Bake Sale Friday, May 11, 2012

10:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. Education Room at the Admin. Building

Draft Agreement-in-Principle Info for Kitselas members at the Terrace Public Library on Saturday, May 26th from 10am - 5pm. Meet the Communications Team and ask questions.

Dr. Omrid, Dental Therapist will be in Kitselas May 23rd and 25th. Please call 250.635.5084 to schedule an appointment.

Community Dialogue on Aboriginal Education - May 24th

12 -2 pm at the Kermode Friendship Society (Eagle Room at the Main Centre). Everyone Welcome!

Early Years Family Fair - May 12th 10am - 2pm at Suwilaks School. FREE Family event with info & activities - Pregnancy to 6.

Ice Cream, Blizzards & Slushies for Sale. Cones: \$1.00-\$3.00; Slushies: \$1.50-\$2.50. To order text Elaine at 250-975-0892

Ongoing:

Kitselas Soup Kitchen Tuesdays at Noon - Gitaus Admin Bldg.

Volunteers needed to help with food prep and to deliver food to Elders and Queensway residents. Contact Sasheen for more info.

Take control of your mental and emotional health!

Counseling services at the Gitaus Administration Building:

Wednesdays 10:00 am – 4:00 pm with Jonathan Whonnack

Thursdays 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm with Kathy Wesley

Elders Diabetic Group runs each THURSDAY from

11:00 am – 3:00 pm at Kulsapai Health Station. Lunch provided.

Mothers Prenatal Group is each Wednesday from 12:00 - 2:00pm at the Gitaus Administration Building.

Healthy Food Distribution for pregnant women and diagnosed diabetics. Individuals who do not fit into the category of intended recipients can participate in this program at a cost of \$10.00. Contact the Kitselas Health Department for more information.



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“Increasing Knowledge
Together
for a Better Tomorrow”

**Volume 4 Issue 17
April - May 2012**

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Fax: 250.635.8793

www.kitselas.com

Is your mailing address
up-to-date?

Please help us to maintain communication with the Kitselas membership. If you have family and friends who do not currently receive information from the Communications Office please encourage them to be in touch!

Ph: 250-635-8882 ext 242
E: h.zornow@kitselas.com

follow us on
twitter

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Visit us on
Facebook

**[www.facebook.com/
CanyonCurrentPage](http://www.facebook.com/CanyonCurrentPage)**

Kitselas Treaty Group:
<http://on.fb.me/kitselastreaty>

Director of Administration Report to Kitselas Members

Hello members of Kitselas. There has been a lot of activity at the band office lately. We have scheduled a Strategic Planning Session for Council and Management, and will have Dr. Denise Henning, President of Northwest Community College, facilitating this initial session. All Kitselas staff will be involved in developing the plan and we will present the plan to the community for review. This plan will help staff and council set their direction on how best to assist the community. We also have planned a Community Meeting for May 22, 2012. Departmental reports will be delivered to community members prior to the meeting, dinner will be provided.

Two employees have left KBC in the last few weeks: Linda Innes has decided to move back to Kitkatla for family reasons and Dan Parker Sr. has taken a position with Kitsumkalum. We wish them both well. While we are going through the hiring process for a new Health Manager, I will be Acting Health Manager. I have experience in Health and hope that we are able to find a replacement by the end of May. We will not be reposting for a new Public Works position at this time, as this program will be restructured.

There is a hold on any new housing developments for this fiscal year, but we will continue our renovation program. The amount of debt that the band is carrying for housing is substantial and needs to be addressed. I understand that housing is an issue for many people and we will do our best to provide quality homes that people can afford.

I have been meeting with different groups on behalf of Kitselas: City of Terrace, AANDC (INAC), Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine, RCMP, NWCC, Northern Health, Kitsumkalum, Valard, BC Hydro, and the Mining Association of BC. I have also met with the Kitselas Elders Group and heard some of their concerns. Building these relationships will help provide service to the community and hopefully bring stronger partnerships. But a majority of my time is spent working with the staff and council to assess where Kitselas Band Council is at and where we can improve our services. I will have more to report at the Public Meeting and hope to see you there.

Jason Majore
KBC Director of Administration



Administrative Staff from the communities of Kitselas, Kitsumkalum and Metlakatla participated in a Human Resource workshop delivered by the BC Treaty Commission on March 29th - 30th at the Kitselas Hall. This workshop is intended to start dialogue on the requirements of self-government for Native communities. This issue is at the forefront as we inch closer to an Agreement-in-Principle. The Kitselas Council and Administration continue to work at improving services and prepare for the realities of governance outside the Indian Act.

Photo: Morris Mason

Kitselas Education Program News by Debbie Moore

Congratulations to 2011-2012 Post Secondary Students who've completed a successful year of school! Between April 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012 Kitselas Post-Secondary Program funded 14 students in a variety of programs.

Although classes have recently ended, it's time for all continuing Post-Secondary students, new high school graduates, and new applicants to apply & register for September 2012 programs. All continuing students should submit their renewal applications by May 31, 2012. Please ensure that you attach all supporting documents; this includes students currently attending a post-secondary. Anyone not able to meet the May 31 deadline should contact Debbie to provide a reason for the delay.

New applicants including 2012 Caledonia, Parkside & Centennial Christian School graduates, please see Debbie to discuss education goals and to access application forms & guidelines. New high school graduates who are not Kitselas Band Members should contact their bands for Post-Secondary funding.

Parents of Grade 12 students attending Caledonia, Parkside and Centennial Christian Schools are urged to contact the secondary school (list of phone numbers provided below) that your child is attending to confirm that your child will graduate. Please ask the school to phone, fax or email verification to Debbie at (250) 635-8793. Once graduation is confirmed, the Grad Allowance will be issued.

Caledonia Senior Secondary (250) 635-6531

Parkside Secondary (250) 635-5778

Centennial Christian School (250) 635-6173

The NWCC upgrading program is experiencing cut-backs this year and has limited seating. If you require upgrading or pre-requisites for a training program please apply to Northwest Community College CCP program NOW. NWCC ABESAP covers tuition, books and may cover a bus pass.

Tricorp has replaced Skeena Native Development.

For more information on funding for trades training please contact Alisha Benson at 1-800-665-3201 or E: abenson@tricorp.ca

Wabsuwilaks'm Gitselasu hopes to graduate a number of students this year. Our goal is to provide all courses required to achieve the Adult Dogwood. A minimum of five courses are required to graduate. Attendance, completion of assignments and homework are necessary for students to successfully achieve the Adult Dogwood. We are accepting applications for September 2012 enrolment. Please apply at the school and provide a copy of your most recent transcripts. Another Open House is planned before year-end and we will be accepting applications at that time. Community members and those interested in being a student are encouraged to attend, stay tuned for more details.

Mr. Fred Wilson will be moving to the Vancouver area for employment. His last day with us is June 29, 2012. The Kitselas Education Department and Kitselas Band Council wish to thank Fred for his contributions to Wabsuwilaks'm Gitselasu and student support. We wish Fred and his family all the best.


Criteria to apply to Kitselas Post Secondary Funding:

- Must be Registered Kitselas Band Member as per Kitselas Membership Code.
- Anyone registered under the new bill C-3 is required to apply to Kitselas for membership.
- Must be accepted to an approved institute (A registered Post Secondary Institute-not private)
- Must be accepted into an approved program of studies (some Trades programs requiring grade 12 pre-requisite may qualify).

Kitselas Post Secondary Applications, forms and guidelines are available at the Gitau Administration reception desk.

Please address inquiries to:

Debbie Moore 250-635-5084 ext 231



Join us for the third in a series of conversations on Aboriginal Education

Thu, May 24
12:00 - 2:00 pm

Kermode Friendship Society
Eagle Room, Main Centre on Kalam St.

EVERYONE WELCOME
children, families, community members

welcoming * respectful * leadership * equality * culture * pride * understanding

Sponsored and Organized by:
Kermode Friendship Society, Kitwano Education Department, Na Akas Gila Kiyew, Coast Mountains School District, Kitselas Education Department, UNBC, Skeena Diversity Society

community dialogue on
ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

Employment and Training News by Sandy Watson

There is now a job posting folder in Gitaus and in Queensway that will be updated on a weekly basis, here you will find the most current job postings and how to apply. At the Queensway Office, the folder also has information on courses being offered through Northwest Community College, Kitimat Valley Institute and other training organizations. In Gitaus this information is posted on the bulletin board outside the employment office.

Be sure to visit and 'LIKE' the Kitselas Band Employment page on Facebook. You can post information that you may have on upcoming training or job postings. This page is regularly updated and is getting a lot of traffic!

Mark your calendars! On Friday June 1, 2012, the Employment and Training program and the Treaty Office will be hosting a Career Fair. The event will take place in Gitaus from 12-4 pm. We will have various companies and

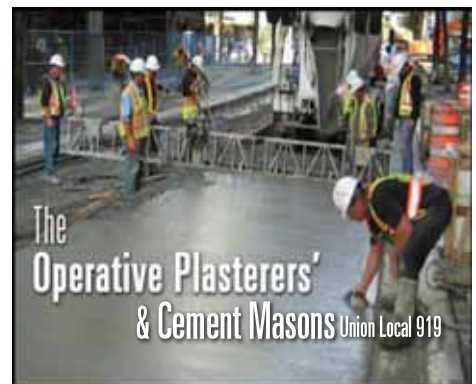
organizations set up to talk about what they do, how to apply and some will be taking resumes on site. Northwest Community College will be bringing their new heavy duty operator simulators so you can try your hand at operating these big machines. There will be door prizes, prize draws, presentations and food. It is shaping up to be a fun filled and informative day. If you would like to help plan this event, please contact Sandy at the band office ext 229. Stay tuned for more details.

There is a shortage of skilled workers in this region. Companies are in desperate need for people with tickets in specific areas. Companies are agreeing to take on apprenticeships so that they can retain the skilled workers. There is a lot of exciting opportunities cropping up in Terrace and more to come, don't miss out! There is time to upgrade, take some courses, get your tickets and land that dream job!

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at Gitaus Office.
Call 250.635.5084 ext. 229

Tuesdays at Queensway Office
call 250.635.8882 ext. 245
E: employment@kitselas.com



May 14th - June 8th, 2012

INTRODUCTION TO CEMENT FINISHING

UA PIPING INDUSTRY COLLEGE OF BC
Kitimat Campus 651 Columbia Ave. Kitimat, BC
www.uapicbc.ca

Pre - Apprentice Cement Masons Program

The Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association Local 919 is offering Introduction to Cement Finishing at the UAPICBC Kitimat Satellite Campus. The goal of the program is to have participants develop the skills necessary to begin a Cement Masonry Apprenticeship on Industrial Projects in the Kitimat Region. Cement Masons place and finish concrete for a variety of projects including buildings, bridges, curb and gutter, sidewalks, industrial and large infrastructure.

For more information on Cement Masons go to www.opcmia919.org
Pre-requisites: At least Grade 10 (Grade 12 preferred), Good physical condition

For further information on the program contact
Kevin Jeffery at kjeffery@citywest.ca
or call 778 631 2979 or 250 615 2958
To apply the program please send resume to
kjeffery@citywest.ca by May 10th

Funding is available for qualified individuals



Government of British Columbia



Terrace Make Children First Network is pleased to invite you to the 7th Annual

EARLY YEARS FAMILY FAIR

Saturday
MAY 12
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Suwilaawks Community School
Clarence Michiel, 3430 Sparks Str.

FREE FAMILY EVENT
with information and activities for children and their families
from **PREGNANCY TO AGE 6**

EVENT SPONSORS:
Thank you to funding from the Ministry of Children and Family Development for the work of Make Children First Network. Thank you to all early child development, social services organizations, educators and volunteers for their contribution of time and expertise to make this Fair possible.

250-635-8761 | WWW.TERRACECHILDREN.ORG



Theme:
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING



Health Hubs Create New Opportunities

The Kitselas/Kitsumkalum Health Hub has hosted two kick off events on April 27th and May 5th to share with each of the communities the unique opportunities that come from working together on health initiatives.

HUB stands for “Helping Us Build” and is a new collaborative approach to health for First Nations communities. There are currently 33 Community Engagement Hubs in BC. Community Engagement Hubs are groups of First Nations communities working through one agreed upon organization. The formation of the Kitselas/Kitsumkalum Health Hub will allow both communities to work together, sharing resources and building on strengths. The Health Hub is not replacing any services, but rather is enhancing what already exists. This new approach will ensure health

funds are put toward community priorities and that health services reflect the vision of the community.

Five years ago, Sue Bevan as the Health Director, developed a Kitselas Health Plan with the Elders. The goal for Kitselas is to re-visit this plan and prepare for the next phase of implementation. The next six months will be spent talking to the community about health to help inform a plan that will be created through community input. This process allows Kitselas to take ownership of the health of the community and create new solutions to health service delivery. Kitselas and Kitsumkalum share common strengths and challenges and in working together can find new ideas and ways to improve health services. Stay tuned for more as this new initiative unfolds.

A big THANK YOU to all of the Kitselas Youth who helped out for the April 27, 2012 HUB Kick Off Event. You REALLY illustrated EXACTLY what it means to take a POSITIVE ROLE in the community. Your DEDICATION and COMMITMENT to making the event a success was appreciated and admired by many. Please keep up the good work.

**Much Respect,
Kitsumkalum
Health Services**



Lands Office Updates

The Kitselas Master Land Use Plan was accepted and approved by Council April 25, 2012. A final review will ensure all ‘I’s are dotted and ‘T’s are crossed. The plan will be sent for printing and binding and will be distributed to each Kitselas member, one per household on Kitselas lands.

The Kitselas Property Taxation Act, 2012 was enacted on April 25, 2012. This law will tax commercial enterprise on Kitselas lands.

The Kitselas Property Assessment Act, 2012 was enacted on April 25, 2012. This law will allow Kitselas to conduct assessments on the value of Kitselas lands.

Kitselas will be starting the Energy Conservation Assistance Program through an agreement with BC Hydro. BC Hydro will pay for

energy efficient retrofits to houses on Kitselas lands up to a maximum of \$2000 per house for low-income and fixed-income houses. Eligible homes will be identified, please stay tuned for more as this program unfolds.

Regular meetings have gotten underway on a Community Smokehouse Project. A group of Kitselas members are partnering with the Kitselas Lands, Employment and Social Development Offices to put on a ‘Fish Camp’ this July. This program is community driven and anyone who has an interest in getting involved is welcome to participate. Contact Sonja for upcoming meeting dates at 250.635.8882 ext 232 or email: sfoss@kitselas.com.



The Kitselas Community Garden is just waiting for some able bodied individuals to clear another patch of land. Seedlings have started coming up and as soon as they are strong enough we can transplant them. Dorreen McMillan will let every one know when the plots are ready for planting. She says, “we are so blessed to have the land and the volunteers.”

If you would like to get involved in the Kitselas Community Garden contact Dorreen, you can find her on the Kitselas BC Facebook page or drop by the Garden located next to the Youth Centre in Gitau.

Deconstructing the Indian Act

“The Indian Act limits our imagination and the potential of our children,” stated Manny Jules to the crowd at the ‘Deconstructing the Indian Act: Dinner and Discussion’ on April 13th 2012 at Kitselas Hall. The crowd was captivated by the guest speaker whose candid talk touched home for many with a subject that is not easily discussed. Along with the tragic and painful legacy of residential schools, the Indian Act has remained a silent tool of colonization that continues to limit Native people.

In the 20 years of negotiations it is arguable that the purpose behind treaty making has become a bit of a mystery to the up and coming generation. Exposing the limitations of the Indian Act and its effect on our lives is the perfect place to start telling the story of where we have been and where we want to go. Most people haven’t read the Indian Act, but its role in our history is profound. Our Elders can remember a time when the Indian Act forbade them to leave the reservation, they were not allowed to sell the harvests they cultivated, they were not allowed to vote and they were not allowed to engage in potlatches – a critical socio-economic practice of wealth distribution that sustained them as a people for hundreds of years. While most of these provisions have since been removed from the Indian Act, this piece of legislation, unlike any other in the world, continues to dictate how Native people are governed in Canada. It is this piece of legislation our ancestors fought against in their tireless pleas to the government to be free to live on the

land as they always had.

In his address Manny noted that the Indian Act has taken away our authority and jurisdiction. “We operate our government the way they tell us to operate,” he stated referring to the Department of Indian Affairs (now known as Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada- AANDC). The aim of self-government, and the purpose of treaty making, is to take back the authority and jurisdiction for the nation to manage their own affairs.

Manny’s approach to self-government is rooted in economics. His work over the years has been focused on improving the status of Native people on-reserve through the establishment of financial institutions that were limited because of the Indian Act. Manny asserts that First Nations property rights depend on the ability to take control of taxing powers on-reserve. He was the driving force behind the 1988 passage by Parliament of Bill C-115, known as the Kamloops Amendment, which was the first First Nation-led amendment to the Indian Act. This Bill clarified First Nation jurisdiction over property taxation on reserve lands. Manny was also the driving force behind the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act (2005), which created the First Nations Tax Commission of which he is currently Chief Commissioner.

Manny Jules will be back in Kitselas on June 2nd 2012 to talk in more detail on the topic of Self-Government.



The Kitselas Treaty Office participated in the Terrace Chamber of Commerce Business Expo this year. Our booth came in second for the Judge’s Choice Award. Our Communications Team spent the entire weekend manning the booth and Stella Wright and Ben Auckland showcased their artwork. Stella demonstrated cedar weaving and Ben demonstrated drum making for the crowd. Both kindly donated their artwork for the daily draw. Loretta Mason’s fried bread on Saturday was also a huge crowd pleaser. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made our presentation a success!

Pictured L-R: Clarisa Spencer, our newest Communications Team member with Sharlene Mohr, Treaty Clerk.

'Why Treaty?': Settling the Land Question Dinner & Discussion



May 17th 2012 at 5:00 pm - Kitselas Hall

Modern day treaties are about settling the land question. This meeting will discuss why this is important and what a treaty means for the next generation.

Guest Speakers:

Herb George (Satsan)
President, National Centre for First Nations Governance

Fred Tolmie
CEO, Nisga'a Lisims Government



Kitselas Treaty
Negotiations

250.635.8882

www.kitselas.com/treaty

Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/KitselasTreaty>

~ Kitselas Elders ~

Bake Sale



May 11, 2012

10:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

Gitaus Admin. Building

The Kitselas Treaty Office
has a new
TOLL FREE number!
1-855-635-89882

Please encourage others to be in touch to ensure contact information is updated or to ask any questions. We would love to hear from you!

'Na Aksa Gila Kyew presents

Run Wild! SalmonRun 2012

Kitsumkalum, BC

5 or 10 km

- ➔ Walk
- ➔ Run or
- ➔ Push a Buggy

Sunday June 24, 2012

at Kitsumkalum Ball Field

Pre-Registration Categories*:

\$25 for all registrants 18 - 64
includes T-shirt and lunch
\$15 for youth 6 - 17 years
includes T-shirt and lunch
\$5 for children under 5 and elders over 65
includes lunch

* pre-registration is required to receive a free t-shirt

Pre-Registration deadline: May 25 at 4:30 pm
chance to win a trip for 2 to Vancouver courtesy of Hawkair



- ➔ Pick-up: 9am
- ➔ Run: 10am
- ➔ Salmon BBQ at noon

Registration & Info at:
www.salmonrunwild.ca
or email:
info@salmonrunwild.ca

