



Canyon Current

“Increasing Knowledge Together for a Better Tomorrow”

Volume 3 - Issue 10 July 2011



The Gitselasu Dance Group performing at the Aboriginal Day Celebrations in George Little Park June 25th 2011.

Despite the overcast, rain did not fall to dampen the spirit of the National Aboriginal Day Celebrations held in George Little Park. The annual event brings together Native people from the many outlying communities for a day of unity in celebration of our rich heritage and culture. The park was bustling as visitors moved amongst the various vendors and information booths with the neighbouring Farmer's Market adding to the energy that fed the day. BBQ salmon, fried bread and “Indian ice cream” (soap berries) were among some of the delicious foods available for sale. The crowd was treated to traditional dancing from a number of different groups in addition to band performances and speakers throughout the day. At one point we were also blessed with eagles flying overhead. It was a great day to be Aboriginal!

More photos of the festivities inside...



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In the Community

It is not too late to register for the Summer Youth Theatre Program! Learn about responsible and problem gambling. Use what you've learned and teach others about it through theatre. Participants will learn how to write, direct and act as they create a 20 minute skit that will later be performed to five different audiences.

Meeting times:

Wednesday, July 27th and Thursday, July 28th – Noon to 4:00pm
Wednesday, August 3rd and Thursday, August 4th – 1:30pm to 4:00pm

If you are interested in participating please call 250-635-5084 and speak to Therese ext. 226 or Marcia at ext. 227.

Community Feast July 29th 4:00 pm at the Kitselas Hall. Our youth would like to cordially invite you to share a meal with them as they tell you about their own personal 'Canoe Journey'- a metaphor to their own life- at their Community Feast.

NIFCUS Information Session August 4th 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Topics to include: adoption, 54.1 transfer of custody, Children Out of Parental Home (COPH), Extended Family Program. If possible, please contact the Terrace NIFCS office at (250) 638-0451 (by July 29th) if you are planning to attend. This will assist us in ordering refreshments & the luncheon provided. Everyone welcome.

Totem Pole Raising August 7th 1:00 pm at Historic Canyon Site. Come and witness the raising of the "Dog Salmon" crest pole. Volunteers needed to make this event a success, contact Web at 250-615-8799. Planning meeting scheduled for Thursday July 28th 1pm in Gitau's Board Room.

Ongoing

Good Food Box – 1 pm Every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Free for Pre/Post Natal families (with children aged 0-2) \$10.00 for non-clients. Contact Sara Squires at 615-4771 for more information or to add your name to the list.
*You must collect your Good Food Box at the Wednesday 1 pm meeting time.

Elder's Group meets every Thursday for lunch at the Satellite Office - Kulsapai at 12:00 pm

Floor Hockey - Fridays from 7-9 pm at the Kitselas Hall. Call Dustin Parker for more information at 635-1985.

Parent Connection will resume in September.

Do you have a community event, announcement, story or photo you would like to share? Community submissions are always welcomed at the Canyon Current! The next deadline for submissions is:

Friday August 19th 2011

Email: newsroom@kitselas.com OR Phone: 250-635-8882 ext 242
Contact our office if you would like to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter. Your email address will also be added to a distribution list for any news or updates that come through the communications office.



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July 2011

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**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

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

Please, Be 'Bear Aware'!

Information taken from the Ministry of Environment website

People teach bears bad habits. If bears are allowed to access human food and garbage, they quickly learn to associate it with people and become what is called food-conditioned. These bears lose their fear of humans and become habituated to people.

Habituated and food-conditioned bears are more difficult to drive away than wild bears. If a bear develops a taste for human food, it usually keeps coming back for more. Wild bears can become permanently food-conditioned after only one encounter with non-natural food.

Food-conditioned bears learn to expect human food and are more likely to approach people than wild bears. These bears can damage your property and they are a potential risk to you and the safety of your family. In most cases, however, when a bear comes into conflict with people, it's the bear that loses.

You can help keep bears away from your home by removing any bear-attracting food sources and clearing away any dense brush that could provide cover.

If a bear comes into your backyard try to startle and scare it away by flashing lights and making lots of loud noises. Let the bear know that it is not welcome in your home. However, if the bear is already food-conditioned leave it alone and contact your local **Conservation Service Officer (toll free at 1-877-952-7277)** for help as these bears can be aggressive.

Bears are lured into peoples' backyards by: household garbage, pet and livestock food, bird feeders, food scraps and smells from uncleaned barbeques, compost bins,

orchards, garden produce, etc.

Household garbage is the single biggest killer of bears. During the early spring to late fall, keep garbage behind closed doors in your garage, basement or storage area. Garbage that is left in open carports or in your backyard is an easy target for bears. Put your garbage out on the morning of collection day and not the night before. Avoid stockpiling garbage as this is a good way to attract bears. If you take your garbage to the dump yourself, make sure that it is stored behind closed doors and take it to the dump on a frequent basis. Thoroughly clean your garbage containers every 2-3 days.

Bears have been known to lift barbeques right off porches. During bear season, clean your barbeque immediately after every use. Wash the grill or burn off the smells, food residue and grease. If you can smell your barbeque then it is not clean enough. Store your barbeque in a safe place behind closed doors.

Picking ripe and excess fruit and removing windfall on a regular basis will discourage bears from seeking food. Store your fruit securely behind closed doors. If you have bear problems and do not use your fruit trees, consider removing them.

Use electric fencing to keep bears out of your garden, but make sure that you put it up before bears learn that you have vegetables.

In making a few adjustments to the way we live, we can avoid attracting bears into the community and avoid the tragic loss of more of our bear friends.

This article taken from written material published at http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos/info/bearaware/prevent_problems.html



TIP: Freeze fish guts or waste until garbage pick up day. This will avoid creating a tempting meal for a hungry bear.

Can't we just Re-locate the bears?

Translocation is rarely successful because these bears often return to their original home territory or they become "problem" bears in other communities. Translocated bears usually fail to adapt to their new habitat. They often starve to death or are killed by bears that already occupy the territory.

Trapping bears can be difficult because:

- Culvert traps only work when the bear is hungry and there is no other food available for the bear (the success rate is low).
- Snaring is an effective way to trap bears, but it can only be done in remote areas. A highly stressed, snared bear is a serious safety hazard to people.
- Tranquilizers require 6-20 minutes to take effect. During this time, bears can be a serious safety hazard. For this reason, Bears are only drugged when they are caught in a snare or culvert trap or sometimes when they are in a tree.

Once bears learn how to access human food, they'll do almost anything to get it. The best long-term solution to bear is to avoid creating "problem" bears in the first place.

Aboriginal Days at George Little Park



Top: Gitselas Dancers celebrate Aboriginal Day
Left: Kitselas cuties have fun partaking in the free kids activities.
Below: Kitselas Headstart joins the walk-in to honor the children.



Kitselas held its first community BBQ to commemorate Aboriginal Day on June 21st. Organized by Marcia Spencer, many community volunteers came together to make the event a great success (Thank You everyone for your hard work). In addition to food and good company, youth later entertained the audience with traditional dancing.

*Pictured Left: the BBQ's fired up and ready to go
Bottom Right: Isabelle McKee and Rhoda Seymour relax while waiting for the festivities to begin
Bottom Left: Kitselas cuties kept busy with some activities as they waited for dinner.*



**Northwest Inter-Nation Family and Community Services Society
SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT AT GITAUS**



INFORMATION SESSION

**THURSDAY — AUGUST 4, 2011
10:00 AM — 3:00 PM
GITAUS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
Presented by Maria Koerner, Adoptions Consultant**

Topics to include:
**ADOPTION
54.1 TRANSFER OF CUSTODY
CHILDREN OUT OF PARENTAL HOME (COPH)
EXTENDED FAMILY PROGRAM**

If possible, please contact the Terrace NIFCS office at (250) 638-0451 (by July 29th) if you are planning to attend. This will assist us in ordering refreshments & the luncheon provided.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Celebrating Education

On June 28th the Kitselas Education Department and Band Council hosted an Education Dinner to honor the success of the many Kitselas students who completed another year of studies. A colorfully decorated hall welcomed families who enjoyed a meal with the students. All Kitselas students from Kindergarten to Post-Secondary were presented with a gift to commemorate their achievements.

Below are the students who were acknowledged.

Great Work Post-Secondary Students, Best Wishes on Your Continued Studies!

Eric Bevan - *Visual Arts & Design* Vancouver Film School
 Nichole Bennett - *Business Administration*, NWCC
 Nina Bolton - *Frieda Deising First Nations Art*, NWCC
 Maria Duncan - *Resort & Hotel Management*, Thompson Rivers University
 Rhonda McPherson - *Business Administration*, NWCC
 Corrina Miller - *Youth & Childcare*, University of Victoria
 Faye Miller - *Business Technology*, NWCC
 Charlene Moore - *University Entrance Program*, NWCC
 Edna Scott - *Addiction Counselling Certificate*, Vancouver Community College
 James Seymour - *Business Administration*, NWCC
 Lisa Seymour - *Business Administration*, NWCC
 Clarisa Spencer - *University College Entrance*, NWCC
 Daniel Parker - *Carpentry (3rd Year)*, NWCC



Congratulations Grade 12 Graduates!

Jesse Bevan
 Luke Lawson
 Charles McKee
 Cyril Nabess-Bennett
 Michael Seymour
 Trent West-Johnson

- Caledonia Sr. Secondary -

Alanna Bennett
 Randi - Mae Bennett
 Cheyenne Bevan
 Sami Bolton
 Alvin Seymour
 Brittany Seymour
 William Brandon Seymour

- Parkside Secondary -

Christina Boomer
 Grey Owl Mason
 Preston Stewart
 Lateasha Moore

- Thornhill Elementary -

Kristen Lincoln
 Nicholas Sampare
 Dashoon Wesley
 Gavin Moore
 Melynee Stevens
 Renee Bennett
 Zoe Bevan
 Brittany Blackburn
 Tyloh Bolton
 Terry Evans

Joseph Bennett
 Tatiana Fisher
 Miranda Gray
 Waddy Robinson
 Sierra Spencer
 Kelsey White
 Brienna Wright-Seymour

- Thornhill Jr. Secondary -

Renae Nyce
 Hayley Wells
 Charles Swanson
 Colton Woods
 Dalace Bennett
 Kelsey Bennett
 Ayla Bevan
 Oscar Carlick
 Royce Erickson
 Arnela Robinson

- Thornhill Primary -

Joshua Bennett
 Gabriel Cooley
 Ashley Johnson
 Aaron Robinson
 Dallas Stanley

Eve Wright-Seymour
 Jocelyn Johnson
 Madison Seymour
 James Swanson
 Katasha Wilson
 Shaelyn Barton
 Isaiah Bevan-Wright
 Rena Gray
 Kianna Seymour
 Taylor Wesley
 Lakeisha Wilson
 Sophia Wright-Seymour
 Madge Gray
 Keith Wesley III

- Centennial Christian School -

Destiny Guno
 Owen McNeil
 Robin Guno
 Lannea Gray
 Ethan McNeil
 Coy Quock
 Dempsey Quock Jr.
 Amadeus Derrick
 Savannah McMillan

Headstart Graduation



Kitselas Headstart celebrated the progression of 12 students into Kindergarten with a graduation ceremony on June 24th 2011. Seven will continue on with the Headstart program in the fall, they too celebrated the years learning accomplishments. A new Language & Development curriculum was also launched at the event. Fundraising efforts for this years celebration were phenomenal and allowed for a special day for the children who were treated to a catered lunch of their favorite foods.

Photos by Morris Mason, provided courtesy Lynn Wright



The Kitselas Summer Student program is underway! This summer, students will be working in rotation with the various departments within the Kitselas Administration. As part of their participation in the program, the students have completed the World Host Certificate Program and a Resume Writing Workshop. They will also spend time learning job search techniques, interviewing skills, employer/employee expectations and so forth.

*Pictured Top L-R: Royce Erickson, Dempsy Quock, Amadeus Derrik
Bottom L-R: Arnelda Robinson, Ayla Bevan and Cheyenne Bevan*

Way to Go Headstart Grads!

Joseph Clayton
Anna Edwards
Anna Gray
Mariah Hogue
Carleigh Lawson
Aiden Lincoln
Craig McDames Jr.
Rufus McDames
Wyatt McKay
Edie McMillan
Majestic Mohr
Mya Mohr
Sebastian Moore
MacKenzie Seymour
Mercedes Seymour
Kayden Swampy
Caiden West-Johnson
Alyssa Wilson
Euleina Wright

Congratulations to the those who have successfully completed the World Host Certificate Course held in Gitau's July 25th 2011:

GreyOwl Mason, Mikayla Mohr, Dallas Bevan, Royce Erickson, Dempsey Quock, Amadeus Derrik, Arnelda Robinson, Ayla Bevan, Cheyenne Bevan, Harry Moore Jr., Anne Wright, Rory Erickson, Jessica Weget, Raymond Whittaker, Michael Boomer

The following also participated in a Resume Writing Workshop July 26th 2011:

GreyOwl Mason, Mikayla Mohr, Cheyenne Bevan, Dempsey Quock, Royce Erickson, Amadeus Derrik, Arnelda Robinson, Jessica Weget, Dallas Bevan and Raymond Whittaker

For more information on upcoming training opportunities or for assistance with your job search,

Contact: Joanne Weget - Employment Counselor at 250-635-5084 ext. 235 or Email: employment@kitselas.com



CANOE JOURNEY - YOUTH LIFE SKILLS WORKSHOP

YOU ARE INVITED...

Our youth would like to cordially invite you to share a meal with them as they tell you about their own personal Canoe Journey at their Community Feast.

The youth have been learning life skills that adhere to their own 'Canoe Journey' - which is a metaphor to their own life. Throughout two weeks, they have learned through eight sessions what it is they have or would like to include in their own Canoe Journey.

Please come out and support our youth in this great achievement!

See you there!

COMMUNITY FEAST

Date: Friday, July 29, 2011
Time: 4pm
Where: Kitselas Hall

Do you want to learn more about Kitselas Lands and the Land Code?

The following dates have been reserved for community field trips to the various Kitselas reserves:

July 29th, August 12th and August 26th

This opportunity is open to any Kitselas member who would like to participate and is *Free of Charge*. PLEASE SIGN UP IN ADVANCE TO AVOID TRIP CANCELLATION DUE TO LOW INTEREST.

Contact Sonja Foss, Lands Manager
Phone: 250-635-8882 ext 232
email: sfoss@kitselas.com
To register or for more info

IMPORTANT: you will need to pack your own snacks, lunch and drinks (meals are not included). Insect repellent is highly recommended and you should wear suitable clothing for walking in the bush and on uneven surfaces.

Join the Kitselas Youth Players

DRAMA PROJECT



No experience necessary – training is provided!

Volunteer actors are needed to help with a drama project to increase awareness of responsible and problem gambling in a fun and interesting way.

If you are interested in participating and can commit to:

- ➔ Participate twice per week in rehearsals over one month
- ➔ Regularly travel with the performance troop to local areas

Facilitated by Alan Sauvé, BC Responsible & Problem Gambling Program

Contact: Therese Hagan, Kitselas Wellness Worker
Phone: 250-635-5084 ext 226

TDCSS

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