



A fishing trip just off the coast of Alert Bay in 1920s.

From the archives of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

A new milestone in claim settlement process

After more than a decade of fighting in court, a proposed settlement agreement for Residential School Day Scholars has been reached, according to information from the office of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs. Day Scholars / Survivor Class Members are people who attended federal residential schools as students during the day only, but did not sleep there overnight. The Descendant Class Members are the children of Day Scholars.

But before compensation can begin, the Court needs to approve the settlement. The settlement will be approved if a judge determines that it is fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of the Survivor and Descendant Classes.

As part of the process, Survivor and Descendant Class Members have the right to tell the judge what they think about the settlement, either before or during the hearing.

This is completely optional and participating will not impact one's ability to receive compensation. The judge will take all submissions into consideration before deciding whether or not to approve the settlement.

To learn how to participate, visit JusticeForDayScholars.com or call Class Counsel (Waddell Phillips) at 1-888-222-6845.



'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 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

'NAMGIS COUNCIL

CHIEF:
Donald Svanvik

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

Chief Don Svanvik



Hello 'Namgis:

I hope you are doing well. Great to move into Phase 3 of the COVID protection plan. Let's be careful.

Quite a heatwave we went through and I'm sure we will have some more. Let's make sure we look out for each other.

Summer is here.

Our children are out of school. Congratulations to all the Grads! Congratulations to all our students. You succeeded through and despite the COVID-19 pandemic, you have made us all very proud. Relax, have fun, work hard. Know that you are the future of our nation, and your generation is the one that will bring self determination to roost. I also ask you to be careful in the choices you make.

For the rest of us, let's be participants in the lives of all these children and young adults. We should always know where our children are.

I'll ask again for the drug dealers to stop selling drugs. You can do better. You have witnessed the desperation of users. You know how you're impacting their lives. You know that when another drug tragedy strikes our island, you will have had a part in it. Know that we don't hate you, we hate what you do.

For the drug users who would like to stop using, please reach out. There is help available. If you are nervous and or don't know where to go, call me, I will help you and help you find the help you want.

Let's all work together to provide the future our children deserve.

Assistant Administrator

Report to Community

Tansi! We are doing a lot good work lately that benefit the community as a whole. Activities include the following initiatives that are already underway and initiatives that are soon to be underway and initiatives that are planned.



Big House: We are currently ready to make some long overdue improvements to the Big House. Improvements that include the kitchen area, bathrooms, replacing some base boards around the bottom, parking lot improvements and having our students repainting the front of the Big House under supervision.

Rec Center: New floors were installed, new energy saving lights were installed so instead of waiting a few minutes for the lights to turn on, they now instantly get bright and we are looking at replacing the bleachers as well, it is 95 per cent done with just a few minor details before the Lawrence Ambers Memorial Recreational Centre is fully functional.

Green House: We are currently engaged in a Feasibility Study for a commercial grade hydroponic greenhouse which will create employment, provide fresh produce year-round and is a integral part of our Food Security concept.

Namgis Dock: Last year's planning included repairing three fingers at the Namgis dock which also included installing electrical outlets on the dock for our clients. Next stage in this development is finishing off the remaining fingers, looking into providing marine fuel sales, security and providing moorage.

Housing: We are planning on increasing our Housing stock, creating maintenance plans for current stock. We are also constantly seeking out new financing opportunities for membership to access for purchase, renovating

Thanks, and we are looking forward to sometime in the near future to presenting this information in person to all membership and seeking your input into all of our current and planned activities.

Jeff Munroe, Assistant Administrator, Jeffrey.munroe@namgis.bc.ca

A community newsletter cannot exist without community involvement!

We would like to cover stories and events. Send us information for Kala'mas.

Send submissions to: info@namgis.bc.ca

Material submitted cannot be guaranteed placement but, if material is still relevant, it may be placed in a future issue.

Notice to Income Assistance clients

Income Assistance dates to remember

Monthly declaration : Due by the 1st

Budget & Decision - Mailed out around the 5th of each month: Due by the 15th

Cheque Issue Day : Last Wednesday of the month

Income assistance clients could be also eligible for the following services:

Meals on Wheels: Meals delivered to your door Thursday and Friday afternoons;

Assisted Living: Housekeeping, meal preparation, adult care, psycho-social programs, short- term respite care for caregivers and non-health transportation, making beds, dusting, washing clothes, dishes, sweeping, wiping counter tops, vacuuming, taking out the garbage, scrubbing a bathroom or floor, washing walls or shampooing carpets;

Minor home maintenance: fixing a doorknob or attaching a railing etc.;

Diet Supplements: To help meet costs associated with special dietary needs such as restricted sodium diet, diabetes, kidneydialysis, gluten-free diet, dysphagia, cystic fibrosis, Ketogenic diet, Phenylalanine diet (PKU), high protein diet;

Disability (PWD & PPMB) support: This can enhance benefits for eligible members.

To be approved for any of the above, you must reside on 'Namgis Reserve and complete an application.

Home Supports: Mobility devices and personal care – contact the Health Centre at 250-974-5522

To apply for any of these services and for any questions on income assistance, please contact Social Development Workers Agate Miljour (Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) and/or Ashley Alfred (Monday-Tuesday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) at 250-974-5356.

‘Namgis First Nation Housing

By Diana Shaughnessy

No forgivable grant programs this year and next

‘Namgis First Nation (NFN) has received notice from Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) that they will not provide the NFN with any allocation under any of the forgivable grant programs for 2021/2022. CMHC continues to prioritize First Nations who have not received the program funding before and prioritizes, through various assessments, the most “in-need” communities. The NFN Housing Department requests that any member who already has or may wish to apply submit their letter of interest in December of each year. Please be advised that these programs eligibility is based on income, number of bedrooms within the home, and eligible repair/renovation requests. The NFN does not decide the eligibility.

Rental Units: General Maintenance Support

The NFN Housing Department continues to experience long wait periods for minor repairs for rental units and we would like to take the time to thank everyone for their continued patience. The NFN Housing Department maintains all requests on file and requests any tenant wishing to have a follow up on potential scheduling, to submit a formal written request for an update to the NFN Housing Department. A response will be drafted once discussion on potential scheduling with the contractor/public works staff is completed. Larger maintenance projects are subject to available capacity within the region, but we hope to begin the larger maintenance projects soon. Also please be advised that the NFN Public Works Department offers a great deal of general maintenance support to NFN’s rental units and continues to be one of the busiest departments within the organization. When contacted by the NFN Public Works Department for scheduling, NFN tenants are requested to ensure they are available and present at the scheduled time. Rescheduling causes unnecessary delays.

‘Namgis Housing Policy Amendments: Invitation for Recommendations

In March 2020, NFN initiated amendment procedures through the ‘Namgis Housing Committee (NHC).

However, because of COVID restrictions and impacts, the amendment procedures came to a halt. The ‘Namgis Housing Department has recently restarted the housing amendment procedures and would like to extend an invitation for ‘Namgis Members to submit recommendations for consideration for potential amendments. All submissions should be in writing and can be submitted to the ‘Namgis Housing Committee for consideration. The NHC will meet over the course of the year to review potential amendments and draft recommendations to NFN Council for final review. Once the NFN Council has approved the DRAFT NFN Policy Amendments for submission to the community, the NFN will hold a General Meeting to receive approval from the NFN Members.

Considerations:

The NFN continues to struggle to meet the current needs for NFN Members interested in:

- Independently financing and constructing their own home on ‘Namgis Reserves;
- NFN Members seeking to receive a mortgage loan from a bank or private lender;
- Construct new homes through the Revolving Loan Program;
- There are various reasons this has occurred but the most impactful are limitations are:
- The NFN’s ability to provide loan security for NFN Members to a bank or private lender;
- The existing NFN Housing Policy 2011 limitations;
- Available serviced lots and ideal new construction sites;
- Increased costs of estimated 30% for new construction projects;

NFN Council has directed the NFN and NFN Housing Department to continue exploring potential options to support NFN Members housing needs.



'Namgis Dental Clinic

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

'Namgis Dental Clinic Update

Unfortunately, our Dental Clinic will remain closed; we are actively recruiting for a Dentist. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

We suggest in the interim community member seek services in either Port Hardy, Port McNeill, or Campbell River.

There is patient travel for those who qualify again following those guidelines of notification of appointment and confirmation of attending the appointment.

- Port McNeill:

Port McNeill Dental Clinic	(250)974-4244
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- Port Hardy:

Port Hardy Dental Clinic	(250)949-7775
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- Campbell River:

Campbell River Dental	(250)287-7343
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Willow Point Dental	(250)923-3000
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Beyond Beautiful Smiles	(250)923-4746
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Fresh Dental	(250)830-4567
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Above Shore Dental	(250)286-0088
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Dr. Fran's Dental	(250)286-8331
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City Smiles	(250)923-2060
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Pier Street Dental	(250)286-7437
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Discovery Passage Dentistry	(250)287-9345
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John A Krell Inc	(250)286-0066
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Evolve Dentist	(778)346-9300
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Island Roots Dental	(778)346-9399
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Transplanted chum-incubation and rearing - 2020

By Hank Nelson
Hatchery Manager

December 2020 marked the third time of the eyed chum eggs being donated to the Gwa'ni Hatchery from Puntledge Hatchery.

On Thursday, December 3, Phil Alfred and Gerald Alfred went to the Puntledge along with Dave Davies, the new community advisor, to pick up the first lot of eggs. The following Sunday, the 7th, I and Phil Alfred went down to get the second lot of eggs. Not long after arrival on each of the two trips, the eggs were disinfected for 10 minutes in a solution of Ovadine.



The eggs were placed into separate incubators, which had been divided into two lots until they emerged as fry in February. One lot, comprising about 1.2 million of fry, were reared in three large concrete raceways to the weight of one gram and then released on April 1, directly into Lower Nimpkish River.

The second lot of fry were reared in aluminum troughs also to reach the weight of one gram but then transferred to fish farm pens anchored at Alert Bay from April to June to be fed further in the ocean off the Alert Bay coast for up to six weeks.

This experiment of feeding them in sea pens is supposed to increase the survival rate several times that of the chum that were released directly into the river at one gram, and many times more than what the wild fish have been producing in the recent years.

At the end of the in-sea rearing period, long-time former hatchery employee Len Smith and I dropped the sides of the net pen on May 22 and released approximately 575, 215 chum salmon with average weights of



Hatchery staff happily loading chum fry into live transport tanks to take to sea pens.

3.91 grams and average lengths of 71.8 mm. Five days later, Phil Alfred and Kodi Nelson joined me to release approximately 379,317 juvenile chum salmon with average weights of 4.96 grams and average lengths of 80.77 mm.

These ocean ranching measures are necessary if we want to give our chum salmon a better chance of surviving and returning to our rivers. These are not new methods. This idea came from an experiment conducted by a very successful ocean rancher in Alaska. Having received permission from Fisheries staff, I copied the experiment with a small batch in 2017, when the hatchery staff successfully reared 5,012 chum to 3.5 grams.

Perhaps, if the federal government had listened to the Native Brotherhood in the 1990s when they were asking to do similar ocean ranching, just maybe, our chum numbers would not have dropped so low.



For those who don't know, the Nimpkish River chum crashed in 1996 and again in 1999. In 2002, at least 180,000 chum returned, one of the largest runs experienced by the Gwa'ni Hatchery staff.

After that all our runs spiraled down so low we did not see any chum at all in some years.

We will now have to wait for four years to see if adult chum produced from these fed juveniles will return to the Nimpkish River or return to Alert Bay, even. It is hoped that they do return to spawn and subsequently rebuild the dwindled chum salmon run. We can only cross our fingers. Imagine a life without smoked chum salmon.

'ka yu tl as

Xwidis



Mental Health Miriam Windsor

I would like to let parents know that I am still available to their children and youth for Mental Health sessions throughout the summer. They can contact me at the Health Centre @ 250-974-5522 Extension- 2141 or my cell @ 250-974-7991.



Lands Code Manager Megan Whonnock



Starting in late June, with completion in the fall (2021), Telus will be installing a new 44ft service tower to improve service to the community.

Please be mindful that the area behind the Natural Resources & Administration building will be a construction zone as crews come in to prep the site and install the tower.



The Lands Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) has partnered with Kerr Wood Leidel to update and modernize the 'Namgis reserves Land Use Plan. Stay tuned for more information on how you can get involved!

'Namgis Staff Contact Person: megan.whonnock@namgis.bc.ca

**POWER OF
ATTORNEY**
We can help!

DeeDee Alfred and Sharon Leas are available to do Power of Attorney paperwork at any time.
To make an appointment, call Sharon Leas at 250-974-5356 extension 3243.

First Nations Literature Leah Alfred-Olmedo



Gilakas'la. I'm Leah Alfred-Olmedo, a 'Namgis member living in Vancouver. In September I'll be starting an MA in English Literature at UBC, and in an effort to expand my knowledge of First Nations literature—and to share what I learn—I'll be reading and reviewing one First Nations book a month in Kala'mas.

I'm beginning with *The Only Good Indians*, a 2020 horror novel by New York Times bestselling Blackfoot novelist Stephen Graham Jones.

The novel follows four lifelong friends who are stalked by a supernatural being seeking revenge. It seamlessly blends traditional and contemporary realities for First Nations people and is impressive in its subtlety when handling issues of addiction and systemic racism. The characters feel authentic, especially in their balance of the traditional with the everyday, in their banter with one another, and in their use of humour in the face of adversity. Although it's marketed as horror (and I'm a huge wimp when it comes to horror) I didn't find it too scary. It's written with great suspense that keeps you reading, and with some disturbing scenes of gore, but it's low on the gives-you-nightmares scale. Although I will admit I avoided reading it alone at night.

Overall, *The Only Good Indians* is a well-written novel that confronts some of the contradictions and challenges of reality for First Nations people while also telling a thrilling story, and I highly recommend giving it a read (with the lights on).

If you have a book you're curious about and want reviewed, feel free to contact me:

leah.alfred.olmedo@gmail.com

'Namgis First Nation Membership Department

DeeDee Alfred
Membership Clerk



Although the Membership Department is closed for doing status cards, I am able to continue to provide the following:

1. Application for birth registration;
2. Applications for the Secure Certificate for Indian Status (SCIS) cards for both adult (over 16-10 years) and child (15 and under-five years); for SCIS cards, two passport-size photos are required*; (no laminated status cards due to Covid-19);
3. Will kits;
4. Indian Day school packages;
5. Death reports are still processed;
6. Commissioner signing when required.

Please feel free to call DeeDee if you have any questions at 250-974-5556

**Robin Quirk does passport photos. If you are in Campbell River, London Drugs is the place where members can go to have their photos taken. However, it does take about four weeks at the earliest to arrive.*

Welcome

Molina Nelson, Accreditation Coordinator

My Nisga'a name is Hluut'uxwdiithl lo'op, Precious Stone. My parents are Peter and Loretta Nelson. I was born in Prince Rupert, raised in Port

Edward. I have been recently hired as the Wellness Mentor/Accreditation Coordinator at the 'Namgis Health Centre (NHC).

I am honored to be a part of the team and to work for 'Namgis First Nation. Before moving here, I was deeply involved in my traditions with the Nisga'a Society, volunteering, meetings, being part of the dance group and having my children part of the youth activities (on many levels). I honestly feel every step, thought and breath has led me to this position.

As the Wellness Mentor, I am here to record and report concerns for individuals and families to the appropriate venues, Health Centre staff, stakeholders. Providing outreach, education, prevention, and interventions services within the community. I will network with outside agencies to assist with resources and referrals for clients. I will also be helping with planning and coordinating with events.

Part of my first task is to let community members know that if you have any concerns or issues with any of the 'Namgis Health Centre's programs and/or services, please take the opportunity to fill in the Client/Visitors form. Unless we hear from you, we may not be aware of any concerns or issues that may need our attention. You can share recommendations that you might have that can be taken into consideration. You can also let us know how you would like a response to your concern or issue and if your recommendations allow for appropriate change regarding quality improvement. You can ask any of the NHC staff members for a form that you can take home to fill in. You can put this form in an envelope and address it to either the NHC Administrator, Department Manager, Health and Safety Manager (HSM) or to the Health Board for review.

Being the Accreditation Coordinator, I will collaborate and work to help develop policies, review current policies and related policies for revision. I will be in close communication with the Health Centre Administrator, managers, staff, 'Namgis Health Board, Accreditation Specialist and on-site surveyors. Part of accreditation is always working towards quality improvement with programs and services.

I take pride in myself and my work and have always strived to go above and beyond. There has never been a job that I haven't enjoyed.

I know with your input and guidance, we can accomplish so much! This is a great honour to be working so closely with you.

Looking forward to showing you the best version of myself while I am here.

You can contact me at 250-974-5522 #2132.

Gilakas'la T'ooyaksiy niin





Local Resources & Support Information

Emergencies - Call 911 Alert Bay RCMP: 250-974-5544

Fire/Ambulance (non-emergency) 250-974-5332

Cormorant Island Hospital	250-974-5585
'Namgis Doctor's Office	250-974-5520
Alert Bay Drug Store	250-974-5712
Animal Control	250-974-4188
'Namgis First Nation	250-974-5556
Whe-la-la-u Area Council	250-974-5501
'Namgis Health Centre	250-974-5522
Village of Alert Bay	250-974-5213
'Namgis Community Services	250-974-5356
'Namgis Daycare	250-974-5510
Alert Bay School (ABE)	250-974-5569
T'lisalagi'lakw School	250-974-5591
Post Office	250-974-5433
Community Hall	250-974-2649/4466

Online and phone crisis lines:

NTC A&D Crisis line	250-974-8015
Children & Youth	
Mental Health	250-974-7991
NFN Mental Health	250-974-7107
Kuu-us Crisis Services	1-800-588-8717
N.I. Crisis Counselling Centre	250-949-8333
Canada Wide texting line:	
Text TALK to message 686868	

Youth specific

Ministry of Child & Youth:	310-1234
Youth line	1-866-661-3311
Child & Youth Line:	250-723-2040
Online chat: www.youthinbc.com (12 p.m.-1 a.m.)	
www.vicrisis.ca (6 p.m.-10 p.m.)	
V.I. Crisis Line (24 Hours)	1-888-494-3888
V.I. Crisis (Text Line)	250-800-3806
A&D On-call Line	250-974-8015
Grandparents raising grandchildren	1-855-474-9777
Child & Youth Mental Health	250-949-8011

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
(General line for anyone victimized by domestic violence, sexual assault/exploitation, elder abuse or neglect, dating violence, dealing with grievance)

Virtual supports for substance use

<https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/ehealth/virtual-substance-use-and-psychiatry-service>

Mental Health/FNHA

Mental Health ~ Alert Bay:

Rena Hanuse	250-974-7107
Miriam Windsor	250-974-7991
'Namgis Community Services	250-974-7133

Island Health: Mental Health and Substance Use Services

Port McNeill	250-956-4461
Port Hardy	250-902-6051
Lynn Power	778-319-8311
Kathleen Westergaard	250-949-2729

Critical Incident Stress Management

Patrick Donaghy	250-230-1505
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YouthSpace: Crisis and emotional support

chat line, 6 p.m.-midnight PST, all year
Text and Chat options: Text: 778-783-0177

Online chat <https://youthspace.ca/>

BC Crisis Centre Emotional and crisis support to persons across BC; phone lines (1-800-784-2433) operate 24/7; online chat 12 p.m. to 1 a.m.

For youth: www.YouthInBC.com

For adults : <https://crisiscentrechat.ca/>

Hope for Wellness Help Line: A 24/7 mental health counselling and crisis intervention helpline, available to all Indigenous persons across Canada

Online Chat: www.hopeforwellness.ca

Toll-Free: 1-855-242-3310

Restaurants

Pass'n Thyme	250-974-2670
Bayside Café	250-974-3301
Cookshack	250-974-0004

General store

Shop Rite/RONA	250-974-2777
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