

NOTICE OF TOTEM POLE REMOVAL

September 9, 2026 | Gukwdzi (Big House) Area

'Namgis First Nation is advising members and the public that the totem pole located near the Gukwdzi (Big House) will be removed on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**, due to serious concerns regarding its structural stability.

Due to the nature of the work, the removal will be carried out through a step-by-step process, with safety being the primary consideration throughout.

AREA CLOSURE

The Gukwdzi parking lot and surrounding work area will be closed beginning the evening of **Tuesday, September 8** to allow a safety perimeter to be established.

Access to the Gukwdzi and the entire parking area will be closed while removal activities are underway on September 9. Members and the public are asked to respect all barricades, closures and directions from personnel working at the site.

REMOVAL PROCESS AND TIMING

There is *no scheduled time* for when the pole will be lowered.

The removal team and BC Hydro will complete the necessary safety preparations before removal work begins. The timing of the removal will depend on site conditions and how the pole and its supports respond as work progresses.

BC Hydro will temporarily disconnect power to the Gukwdzi while the work is underway, as power lines are located within the potential fall zone.

RECOGNIZING THE POLE

Following the removal, 'Namgis First Nation will be working with family connected to the pole's original artist to discuss plans for a future recognition event honouring the pole and its significance. Further information will be shared with the community as plans are developed.

'Namgis First Nation appreciates the community's cooperation and understanding while this important work is carried out.

Gilakas'la.