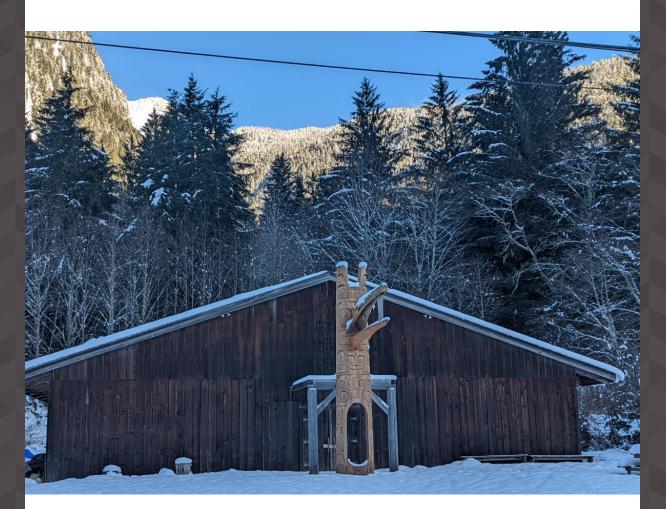


Wuikinuxy Nation



February/March 2025 Update

Chief & Council

Hello Wuikinuxv,

So much has happened in recent months, and there's still much more to come. The Council is focused on ensuring that each department has the autonomy to operate effectively, with the support they need, but without the burden of micromanagement. This report will mainly focus on high-level updates.

Condolences and Community Support

First and foremost, it is with heavy hearts that we acknowledge the losses our community has faced recently. We extend our deepest condolences to everyone impacted by these losses. Additionally, many members are facing serious health challenges, and we want to express our solidarity during these difficult times. Our community has always shown resilience, and now, more than ever, we must come together to support each other. Thank you for providing hope and strength through these trying moments.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Due to the many events that have taken place, the schedule of our meetings has shifted. Our next general meeting will be held in March. We look forward to seeing you there. Since November, we have had several positive developments to celebrate. One of the highlights has been the successful move-in of several community members to their new homes. We're thrilled to see our families starting new chapters in their own houses, and we hope the year continues to bring progress and growth for all.

WEDCO Meeting Update

As promised during the Na Na Kila event, we held a meeting with WEDCO, where the community had an open and constructive conversation with WEDCO and Capacity. This meeting, along with the community's strong backing for a fully operational WEDCO board, has resulted in the induction of a new WEDCO board. The new Board Secretary, Shirley LeBlond, will be the point of contact for all board communications. The full board is made up of Rose Hackett, Frank Johnson, Lena Collins, and Clifford Hanuse. They have had their first meeting and will soon present an update to the community.

Pet Neuter Clinic Success

We are also excited to report the success of our recent pet neuter clinic. With the cooperation of our community, nearly every dog was spayed, neutered, or chemically neutered. A special thank you to Mission Pawsible for their tremendous support. This clinic was a critical step in managing our community's pet population, especially as many female dogs were either pregnant or in heat. We are on the brink of a puppy boom and will continue to monitor the situation.

Indigenous Services Canada Meeting

Our meeting with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) was productive, and we pushed for several of our community's priorities. We will be sharing more updates soon on the services we've requested further information on. Specifically, we are focused on learning more about estate matters, how to better support community development, and how to increase our involvement with children in care. We are also exploring funding opportunities through Jordan's Principle.

A key area of concern is emergency management, especially in light of the rising costs of food supply charters. Shipping rates by PCA have increased to \$1.85 per lb, with a discount offered at \$1.65 per lb. We are still seeking funding for these essential services, stressing their importance in supporting our community's health and wellbeing.

Meeting with FNHA and ISC

We are actively working to arrange a higher-level meeting between ISC and FNHA to address ongoing issues, including travel concerns. This is the second meeting we've requested with upper management at ISC to help facilitate these discussions. We'll share more information as we receive it.

New Governance Director

We are pleased to welcome Melanie MacLeod as our new Governance Director. Melanie will be working alongside the team conducting the governance review and will help us finalize the policies needed for smoother operations within our community. We've made significant progress, and we look forward to completing the remaining work with Melanie's expertise. We are excited about this new partnership and the positive impact it will have.

Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to our community. We look forward to the next steps as we continue to build a stronger, more resilient Wuikinuxv.

Jennifer Walkus Councillor

Executive Update

As we kick off the new year, we are filled with excitement for what 2025 holds for our organization. We have a number of exciting initiatives underway and would like to take a moment to share these with you.

Welcome to Our New Governance Director, Melanie Macleod

First and foremost, we are thrilled to introduce Melanie Macleod as our new Governance Director. Melanie brings a wealth of experience and a passion for organizational excellence, and we are incredibly excited to have her on board. With her leadership, we are confident that our Governance department will continue to grow and thrive. Please join us in welcoming Melanie to the team and offering your support as she settles into her new role.

Looking Ahead: Exciting Developments in 2025

We have a number of exciting developments to look forward to this year. Among the highlights:

- New Website Design: We are working on a fresh, user-friendly website that will improve navigation, enhance communication, and provide our members with an even better online experience. Stay tuned for its launch later this year!
- Better Communications with Members: As part of our commitment to improving how we connect with you, we are implementing enhanced communication strategies. We want to ensure that you are informed and engaged every step of the way.
- Nanakila 2025: We're excited to announce that Nanakila 2025 is fast approaching. This event will be a significant milestone for our community, and we're working hard to make it a memorable and impactful experience for everyone involved.
- Organizational Review: The completed organizational review will be presented at Nanakila 2025, providing a comprehensive look at where we've been and where we are headed as an organization. This review will help guide our future strategies and ensure that we remain strong and aligned with our mission.

As we move forward into 2025, we are filled with optimism and excitement about the opportunities ahead. Together, we will continue to build a strong foundation for success and work towards our shared goals.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Here's to a successful year ahead!

Governance

I am pleased and honoured to introduce myself as your newly appointed Governance Director! My name is Melanie MacLeod and I look forward to meeting with, learning from and walking alongside the Wuikinuxv Nation towards self-determination and good Governance.

I see so many incredible things have been done thus far and look forward to building on that work as we move forward in a good way, together. I will be in community the last week of February and hope to meet each of you then.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions as we set our Governance department in motion, please do not hesitate to reach out at

governance_director@wuikinuxv.net or on my direct line at (250)-982-0315 ext: 243.

Wuikinuxy Stewardship Department



Andra Forney – Stewardship Director

Winter greetings from the Wuikinuxv Stewardship Department.

We hope that you have been staying warm during the cold snap that we have been experiencing these past few weeks. In the Stewardship Department we have been getting some rest from a busy year working out in the territory. We are making plans, preparations and repairs to our boats and equipment in preparation for spring. Later this month our Wuikinuxv Guardians will return to work, and our fisheries program will (photo credit



Guardian Watchmen Program By Bo O'wadi – Guardian Coordinator

The Coastal Stewardship Network hosted meetings this month to discuss the Regional Monitoring System, a system used across the Central and North Coast Nations' Guardian Watchmen Programs to collect Nationowned data. Our Guardian Coordinator, Bo, went down for the meetings. They were a great opportunity to provide feedback and learn what other Nations are up to.

The Wuikinuxv Guardian Watchmen Program is starting up on February 18th with some fresh and returning faces. In our first week we'll be welcoming some Coastal Stewardship Network contractors for a refresher and further training on the Regional Monitoring System. And as our boats return home from being in the shop getting maintenance over the off-season, we'll Alana Closs) prepare for the return of the herring and eulachon.

Grab a warm drink and enjoy some updates and pictures.

be getting out on the water, reconnecting with the territory and our neighbours within the territory, and conducting our first round of crab surveys.





Marine Program 2025 Community Update

By: Alana Closs, Wuikinuxv Marine Manager

The start of 2025 was a wild one for Wuikinuxv's Marine Program (Lena Collins and Alana Closs). Working to further cogovernance initiatives with partnering Nations, the Federal and Provincial Government proved to be a challenge. We have also been busy tying up loose ends on summer fieldwork, engage with community members, hereditary leaders, and elected leaders on important issues and focusing in on work planning for spring and summer fieldwork. We hope you enjoy learning a little more about the initiatives we've been working hard to make happen.

Marine Protected Area Update

As spring rolls steadily towards us so does the finalization of the Central Coast National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCAR), with members of each partnering Nation, the federal government, and the province of BC working around the clock to finalize an Establishment Agreement. Big shout out to Calen May-Tobin, Andra Forney, and Chief Danielle Shaw who have been integral to ensuring our Nation's voice was heard and our priorities recognized at the Establishment Agreement discussion tables and beyond. This work is ongoing with a hopeful wrap up date of March 2025.

In addition to the Establishment Agreement, a committee comprised of representatives from all six partnering Nations (Wuikinuxv, Heiltsuk, Nuxalk, Kitasoo Xai'xais, Gitga'at, and Gitxaala) supported by language and cultural experts have been working to choose a name for the Central Coast National Marine Conservation Area Reserve. The committee had their work cut out for them as they aimed to choose a single name, reflective of all the unique cultures and languages present within the Central Coast marine area. Once a name was chosen that met the committee's agreed upon criteria, each Nation took the chosen name back to their community and leadership for feedback and approval. This process has been ongoing for over a year but as of February 2025, a final name was agreed upon. Engagement about this name within Wuikinuxy was done through a Stewardship Committee meeting, Hereditary Leadership meetings, and over a beautiful community lunch. In early February, over 20 people filled

the Tech Lodge to eat delicious food cooked by Judy and listen to a presentation by Lena and Alana on the name. Terry Reid also joined remotely; Terry has been an integral part of the naming process, providing language expertise and guidance. At the community lunch community members radiated support for the chosen name: Miayaltwa Ganwil ho'on (Me-ah-yall-twa Ganwill hone), meaning World of the Salmon. You can find more information on this process and the meaning of the selected name in a separate briefing note titled "Finding A Name for Our Central Coast Marine Protected Area: Mia-yaltwa Ganwil ho'on" attached to this newsletter.



Shoreline Clean up Project

As many may remember, a huge effort to build a healthier coast took place this summer with Guardians, marine staff, community members, and Rugged Coast Research Society heading out on the land to remove huge amounts of marine debris from shorelines on the outer edges of Wuikinuxv Territory. A total of 3 weeks was spent boating, hiking, helicoptering, kayaking, log walking, beach combing, and bush whacking along huge stretches of coastline within Wuikinuxv outer marine territory. During this time, large amounts of debris from the shipping and fishing industry were pulled, picked, heaved, cut, dragged and dug out from under rocks, logs, sand, and brush. All debris was piled in a large cache in Grief Bay, tied to trees so no storm would sweep it away. In January a barge and helicopter team were finally able to find a safe weather window to make their way out to the cache site and collect the massive bags of debris. Once loaded onto the barge all debris was delivered safely to Port Hardy where it was sorted by hand by the Rugged Coast team. After the sorting process is complete, the recyclable debris will be shipped to the Ocean Legacy Foundation who will melt it down and give it a new life as recycled plastic.

So far 2025 has been a meaningful and impactful season and we are excited for what lies ahead for the marine program. We, Lena and Alana, have been putting thoughtful consideration into work for the spring and summer season, with many engaging projects,

initiatives, and training opportunities in the works. Topics on the agenda involve marine mammal response equipment acquisition and training, targeting invasive species monitoring, improving our knowledge about Wuikinuxv's sensitive marine species and habitat, engaging staff and community members on new agreements related to oil spill response, organizing additional marine debris removal, and hosting a shoreline cleanup celebration in the village. We look forward to working with you all on these upcoming topics and connecting over food and good conversations to continue to understand how you as community members want to take care of your territory waters.

Marine Shipping and Transportation

By: Lena Collins – Wuikinuxv Marine Use Coordinator

Working towards better shipping regulations along our coast

I am working with Central Coast and North Vancouver Island Nations and Transport Canada to draft the terms of reference for a water way safety committee under the Ocean Protection Plan. We are also working on Proactive Vessel Management to develop voluntary management measures for safer operations and standards for large ships and other marine traffic in our waterways.

Marine response planning and training for in our community

I am looking at the training and skills needed in the event of an incident to ensure safety for our responders and personnel. There will be courses available this year for individuals interested in supporting spill response. I am working to create a response team if ever a situation happens in our territory.

Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping

I am working with a consulting firm called Trailmark to interview community members and create a summary document of our use of the marine environment. These interviews asked community members and knowledge holders about the impacts they had witnessed in relation to vessel traffic within the territory with special interest on the impacts to cultural sites, marine harvesting, and whales. We are working to ensure that it captures what we heard from everyone we talked to. Please watch for an announcement when the draft is completed, we will be presenting it at a stewardship meeting for final review. This document will help guide discussion with Transport Canada on management measures and legislation changes where required on the Central Coast.

Finding A Name for Our Central Coast Marine Protected Area: *Mia-yaltwa Ganwil ho'on*

Background

For over the past 15 years, the Central Coast Nations have been working together to create marine protection in our territories, for the benefit of all our communities and future generations.

We are now close to creating this marine protection, by establishing our own Indigenous Protected & Conserved Areas (IPCAs) and a central coast National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCAR).

Creating marine protection has always been, and will continue to be led by our Nations.

All of the Nations involved in creating this protection (Heiltsuk, Kitasoo Xai'xais, Nuxalk, Wuikinuxv, Gixaala and Gitga'at) are now looking to confirm a name for this marine protection and want to do so in a way that reflects all of the Nations' connection to these waters.

What's in a name?

For our Nations, names hold tremendous meaning. They root us in our families, our lands and with our ancestors. Our languages and stories are at the core of our cultures, our way of knowing and teaching. We wanted a name that brings our communities together and reflects our shared interests in why protecting our waters is so important.

We also want a name that can be used to educate, be recognizable, and raise awareness outside of our communities.

What has been the naming process so far?

Over the past few years, the partnering Nations brought together elders, various language experts, and stewardship department staff from each community to develop a process and to brainstorm potential names.

Over the last year a working group with representation from all six Nations met, told our stories, shared words across our languages, brought in linguistic experts, and identified key themes and features that a potential name should have. Bringing together many Nations with unique languages is very difficult, but our shared cultural values allowed for a common name to be identified.

Mia-yaltwa Ganwil ho'on was identified by the working group as the candidate name for our marine protection.

Why Mia-yaltwa Ganwil ho'on?

- *Mia-yaltwa* (pronounced *Me-ah-yalt-wa* in Nuxalkmc, Wuik'ala and Hail-zaqvla.
- o Miá

/**Mía** means fish, or salmon in the Northern Wakashan (Haítzaqvla, Wuik'ala, Xai'xais) language group and is recognized in Nuxalkmc as well.

- o Yaltwa means 'world' in Nuxalkmc.
- When brought together Mia-yaltwa means "World of salmon" Based on our shared stories, this is where the salmon and fish exist in their humanoid form, before providing our Peoples with the nourishment from their selflessness.
- *Ganwil ho'on* (pronounced *Gahn-will hone*) means 'Where Salmon Swim' in Sgüüxs, a mother language that is shared between the Gitga'at, Gitxaala and Kitasoo, and is the root of Smal'gyax. By using Sguux we are working towards the revitalization of this shared language. Ho'on is a shared word between Smal'gyax and Sgüüxs.

Salmon People

We are all Salmon Nations and Fish People. Salmon are deeply significant to our histories, our communities and our surrounding environment. Our waters and its salmon are recognized worldwide. Most importantly, by bringing Mia-yaltwa Ganwil ho'on together, we are symbolizing the Nations coming together, united over protecting what is important to us, for now and for future generations.

FISHERIES PROGRAM

By: Jason Slade – Fisheries Manager; Raven Walkus – Salmon Restoration Coordinator; Shirley Antonelli – Commercial Fishery Coordinator; Jonathan Nolan and Megan Peruzzo – Hatchery Managers

Infrastructure

The Stewardship Operations building is almost complete - Raven and Jason will begin outfitting it with furniture, tools, and appliances over the course of the springtime.

The Landing Craft is getting closer to completion - the hull is complete and the engines are installed - next step is to fabricate and install the wheelhouse.

Co-Governance

Jason, Raven, and Andra have been steering Wuikinuxv and Central-coast-wide priorities through the Fisheries Resource Reconciliation Agreement. It looks like we will be successfully securing protections this year for the struggling Gèldala and 'Càgvàla (Chuckwalla/Kildala) chinook stocks - sports fisheries targeting these stocks will be catch-and-release only. We are also working on making sure that Wuikinuxv traditional knowledge is taken seriously at our decision-making tables.

Commercial Fisheries

Shirley Antonelli, our Commercial Fisheries Coordinator, successfully secured a large grant to pay for additional halibut quota as well as some wages to support our training skipper, Richard Shaw Jr as he continues his mentorship on the Western Bounty. Shirley continues to attend meetings to push forward Wuikinuxv priorities related to the Community Based Fishery program, and continues to communicate with Wuikinuxy fishers who are interested in accessing funding that is available through this program. There have been delays in the implementation of the Community Based Fishery program, mostly related to DFO's resistance to change their existing monitoring programs to fit the smaller boats that will be used by community fishers.

The Western Bounty will be having Rolling Chocks installed on it this spring, so it can fish earlier in the season when the halibut prices are higher.



Hatchery

Operations have been running on schedule with the Gèldala (Kildala) and 'Càgvàla (Chuckwalla) fish now out in the tanks starting to feed. The Wanukv fish are hatched in incubation and will be ponded into the tanks at the end of February/early March.

Jonathan and Megan have been working towards getting some repairs and possible upgrades done to the incubation room. This project is still in the planning stages, awaiting more funding information from Pacific Salmon Foundation. They hope to see the repairs get carried out in the off-season in 2026.



Restoration

Raven has been managing the Boomstick Removal project that provides employment for 3-5 community members who have been working hard to remove boomsticks from the First Narrows and Suèmxulh (Shumahault/Sheemahant) sites, these booms provided ideal haul-out habitat for seals, a major predator for the juvenile salmon as they emerge from their nursery streams. Crews have been towing the booms down to the village for dewatering so the logs can be used for firewood, stifflegs, lumber, etc. This has also provided an opportunity to tidy up the reload site, making the boat launch usable again. Since this project began in Summer of 2023 there has been a noticeable decrease in the amount of seal sightings. Efforts are currently on pause while we wait for additional funding, and will resume again in early April.

The Restoration Crew sought to improve capacity when they joined Kitasoo Xai'xais for a Fisheries Field Skills course in Klemtu last year, and worked on increasing, and sharing, their knowledge and understanding of our watershed while carrying out project activities like the creekwalking program, culture camps, trout survey and community-focused trips to the lake.



Reconnecting the community with our traditional rights and responsibilities, and to the land and culture, is the driving focus behind our restoration efforts and we will strive to continue providing these opportunities to community members this year. We will also continue seeking opportunities to increase capacity for ourselves, and the community, to plan and implement restoration methods that combine Indigenous Knowledge and scientific methods.



Wanuky Sonar and Test Fishery

Chris, Jonathan, Cynge, Lincoln, and Jason helped to maintain the sonar system and conduct the Wanukv test fishery. Chris, Jason and Lincoln are still reviewing the Aris data and hope to have a 2024 Sockeye estimate by March 31st. We are delayed with our estimate due to staff capacity and some equipment malfunctions that resulted from the heavy flooding late in the season.

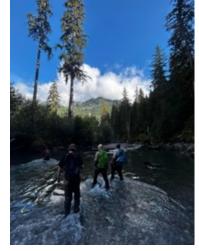
As we have taken over management of the program from LGL, we have noticed that some of the fish are swimming underneath the sonar devices, causing us to realize that the estimates that we have been getting from this program over the years are not necessarily accurate. We are looking at options to redesign the system to make it more accurate, and/or potentially expanding the test fishery, so that we can pay food fishers in the community to fish for food fish sockeye, and then use that data to help make the estimate. If you have questions about this, please get in touch with Jason!

Creekwalking/Owikeno Lake Clear Streams Index

Raven Walkus, Jason Slade, Theodore Walkus, James Brown, Lincoln Corbett, Ibin Ardilia, Margaret Dixon, and Michael Brown were the creekwalkers this year. We were based out of Cinisi Camp. Heavy rain and flooding during the spawning season meant that there were lots of camp days this year, and that we are not confident in our sockeye numbers, because the streams were too high to safely walk in the creeks for much of the season. We do think that there were significantly fewer sockeye last year than we have seen in the five years that we have been leading the creekwalking program.







Culture Camps

In collaboration with the Health Department, Raven Walkus coordinated 2 Culture Camps in July that focused on Wuikinuxv Youth and reconnecting them with the land. We hosted 22 youth and 13 community members at the Cinisi Camp where we spent time exploring the land, sharing knowledge, harvesting berries, fishing, swimming, and learning about medicinal plants and how to process them into traditional medicine.

The Restoration Crew also assisted with a Community Hunting Trip in November that hosted over 10 people at the Cinisi Camp, we were able to observe and learn about the territory during a time of the year we wouldn't typically be up there. Although we were unsuccessful in getting a deer we did see lots of tracks and a few mountain goat sightings in the Upper Basin and just east of 'Asxvələm (Ashlulm).

Raven is currently applying for more funding to support culture camps this coming year, and working with other departments to provide more culture camp opportunities for our youth this summer.









Wanuky Chinook Dead Pitch

The Chinook deadpitch did not substantially occur this year due to a staffing shortage.

Herring Monitoring

Jason is applying for funding now to continue the herring monitoring work that has been done in the outer areas of the territory for the past few years, and includes staff from both Guardian and Fisheries programs. This work would begin in mid-March. Some community members have talked about reviving old methods of herring stewardship like transporting fertilized eggs from one place to another. Please get in touch with Raven or Jason if you would like to talk about this!

Eulachon Monitoring

Chris will be leading the Wanukv eulachon monitoring project again this year. It will begin in late March. We will make efforts to travel to other known eulachon streams in the territory when weather permits to monitor for eulachons.

Housing



We are excited to share a few updates from the Wuikinuxv Housing Department.

1. We're Hiring a Full-Time Housing Manager

We are currently hiring for a fulltime Housing Manager to join our

4. Phase 1 of Housing Renovations

We are preparing for Phase 1 of our three-phase housing renovation project. This exciting project will help improve the quality of housing within our community, and we look forward to sharing more details as the work progresses.

5. Join Our Housing Committee Meetings

We encourage you to join our Housing Committee meetings, held every other Thursday afternoon. These meetings are a great team! If you or someone you know is interested, please stay tuned for more details on how to apply.

2. A Special Thank You to Glenn Woiwod

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Glenn Woiwod for his dedication and support over the last year in assisting our department, as the Interim Housing Manager. His contributions have been invaluable, and we truly appreciate all the work he has done.

3. Welcoming New Tenants

We are pleased to announce that two more tenants moved into their new homes in early January. It's always a joy to see families settling in and becoming part of our community. opportunity to learn more about the ongoing work in the housing department, ask questions, and share your insights.

Thank you for your continued support of our community's housing efforts. We look forward to working together to create a stronger and more vibrant Wuikinuxv.

Capital Projects



KATIT CREEK BRIDGE

This report is to provide an update on the Katit Creek Bridge project. While the concrete bridge itself is complete, the initiative is still winding down. The final work will be focusing on restoring the land surrounding the bridge and implementing improvements on the northern side of the road to mitigate flooding during heavy rain.

Unfortunately, due to the necessary width of the bridge for vehicle access, the planned sidewalk portion had to be removed. However, efforts will be made to develop plans to construct a sidewalk parallel to the bridge.

Please watch out for reports that will update on the progress of the remaining



TRANSFER STATION

This is to give update on the situation with the white flat deck truck. Due to the issues with the existing truck scraping the barge ramp, there was a need for a larger vehicle. Please be informed that a new flat deck truck has been approved. This new truck will resolve the previous problems and allow for smoother operations.

CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE

An update on the infrastructure servicing plans for the Civil Infrastructure project:

- Water Distribution System: The existing system will be maintained, with new services (25mm or 50mm diameter PE) connecting to it. A new hydrant will be installed for increased fire coverage. The 95m section of 150mm diameter PVC watermain on Lot 1 will be replaced and relocated to facilitate construction.
- Sewer Servicing: The existing system will be maintained. New sanitary services (150mm and 100mm diameter PVC) and cleanouts will be installed for the new houses. Existing services and septic tanks on Lots 1 and 42 will be replaced with new pipes connecting to the new buildings, with new septic tanks for the triplex units on Lot 1.
- Electrical Servicing: The existing overhead distribution system will provide electrical services to the new homes.

Contractors will be invited to make a bid on the waterline relocation and sewage septic system work. Most of the electrical service, water distribution system and sewer servicing has been completed.

BROADBAND TRENCHING WORK

The purpose of this project is to provide enhanced high-speed Internet connectivity to all households and businesses within our community. This project will be considered successful if it achieves the following objectives:

 Modernization of Wuikinuxv's broadband infrastructure, providing the community with

YOUTH CENTRE

At the moment, in order to get Jordan Principal funding for at least 62 percent of the design and construction costs of the Youth Centre the Wuikinuxv Nation and Indigenous Services Canada have been working on a "functional programming" document. Below is a summary of the latest developments between the Wuikinuxv Nation ("WN") and Indigenous Services Canada ("ISC"):

- WN sends ISC a Functional Program and budget for the youth center, and ISC requests clarification on FNCFS-funded staff positions and activities.
- WN and ISC discuss their concerns and provide additional information, with WN suggesting a new format for the Functional Program to better address ISC's questions.
- ISC requests clarification on specific details of the Functional Program, including staffing, programming, and space needs.

Once the functional programming document is complete the design part for the Youth Centre should be able to proceed and then when the design is done the construction can happen.

LANDFILL ASSESSMENT

This report outlines the funded approved scope of work for the Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) and Preliminary Quantitative Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (PQRA) required to support the decommissioning and formal closure of four community waste disposal sites. This assessment is essential to ensure that there are no risks to human health or the environment following the

access to affordable and reliable broadband speeds of at least 50 Mbps download and up to 10 Mbps upload once the Connected Coast service is available.

- Future-proofing of the community's broadband infrastructure.
- To achieve these objectives, the project will deliver:
- Upgraded existing last mile infrastructure to increase overall system capacity and modernize key components.
- Installation of underground fibre from the community centre to the boundary of the Katit Reserve (approximately 1,168 meters).
- Ensured customer access to speeds of at least 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload.

Contractors will be invited to submit bids for the broadband trenchwork.

closure.

The project will involve the following tasks:

Task 1: Detailed Historical ESA Review, Site Reconnaissance

- Review previous ESAs to develop a conceptual site model (CSM), understand contaminant migration pathways, and develop sampling plans.
- Review existing environmental characterization data for use in the supplemental site investigation (SSI) and PQRA.
- Identify gaps in the existing site data sets.
- Conduct a site reconnaissance to gather information on site location, conditions, access, and history, and to assess the status of existing monitoring wells.

Task 2: Supplemental Site Investigation to Support Risk Assessment

- Collect surface soil samples around the site perimeter and in areas with visual or olfactory signs of impact.
- Collect groundwater samples from existing monitoring wells.
- Install temporary soil vapour probes and sample existing soil vapour wells.
- Collect surface water samples if surface water is present.

Task 3: Draft Reporting ESA and PQRA

• Prepare and submit a draft report including field methods, sample results, and the preliminary quantitative risk assessment.

Task 4: Presentation of Assessment Findings

• Present the findings of the assessment to the Nation.

Task 5: Site Closure Reports (SCRs)

- Submit draft SCRs to ISC for review and comment.
- Submit final SCRs to ISC.
- Complete an updated National Classification System for Contaminated Sites (NCSCS) scoring spreadsheet if necessary.

This comprehensive approach will

provide the necessary information to ensure the safe and responsible closure of the waste disposal sites.

January Highlights









Vet Clinic - January 2025

With all the animal safety concerns and the growing issue of overpopulation, the community suggested bringing in a veterinarian team to help. We listened, and after a ton of hard work and organizing, we were thrilled to welcome the Care Network team to the village in January!

Huge shout out to James, doctor Roberta, Judeet, Alex, and Julia for making our spay and neuter clinic a big success. In total we completed 48 spay and neuters and the best part? We got all the females fixed, so no surprise puppies in the near future!

A big thank you to everyone who brought their pets in and took advantage of this service we were also able to provide vaccines and dewormer to those who wanted them. Plus, we had very few post-op issues, which was fantastic!

This clinic was a major effort and quite expensive to pull off, so if you'd like to support this clinic, donations are always appreciated at finance@wuikinuxv.net or directly to the care network organization at

www.carenetwork.ca. Every little bit helps! We hope to work with them again in the near future!

Gianakaci for helping keep our village safe from animal overpopulation! Your support and involvement make all the difference.

Current Employment Opportunities

- Social Development Coordinator Open until March 31, 2025
- Summer Recreation Coordinator Open until March 21, 2025
- Housing Manager Open until March 31, 2025
- Governance Clerk Open until March 31, 2025

Wuikinuxv Nation | c/o Bag 3500 | Port Hardy, BC V0N 2P0 CA

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