



# Sayt-K'ìlim-Goot

one heart, one path, one nation



Nisga'a Lisims Government

October / November 2012

## President's Message /

### THE NEXT FOUR YEARS

As our newly elected members are sworn in at Wilp Si'ayuuḱhl Nisga'a on November 19, 2012, it is time now for our Nisga'a citizens and newly elected members to consider the future – the issues that we face, and what we hope to accomplish collectively over the next four years.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to begin, however, by acknowledging those Nisga'a citizens who participated in our national elections. Si'aamhl wilsim'. You have fulfilled one of the key civic responsibilities of your Nisga'a citizenship by selecting your leadership for the next four years. I also want to congratulate those who successfully campaigned and were elected, and acknowledge those who participated yet were not elected.

Above all, I'd like to thank those members who have served Nisga'a Nation that will not be returning to elected office this term. In particular, I'd like to acknowledge Sim'oogit

K'amluugidis, Edmond Wright, Secretary-Treasurer. Edmond has served the Nisga'a Nation with distinction for over 42 years, 32 of those years as Secretary-Treasurer for Nisga'a Tribal Council/Nisga'a Lisims Government. Moreover, Edmond has been one of the key figures in our historic struggle to achieve self-governance for ourselves on our own lands by negotiating the Nisga'a Treaty, and for guiding us in our first 12 years of governance. His innumerable contributions to his community and to the Nisga'a Nation in the areas of capital infrastructure, fiscal relations, and law-making to name a few are a legacy that will continue to serve future generations of Nisga'a Nation. I would simply like to say Si'aamhl Wilin Sim'oogit, Si'aamhl Wilin. We know that you will continue to serve the Nisga'a people in whatever capacity you so choose.

### WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

During this term of office, the Nisga'a Nation has several key priorities. Among them is the goal of prosperity.

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## Regular Election of Nisga'a Government / November 7, 2012



On a crisp fall day, Nisga'a citizens turned out to vote for their preferred candidates. Voting every four years in the Nisga'a elections is important – we all get to exercise our individual rights as citizens and voter turnout is what helps strengthen our Nation in the long run. We appreciate the efforts of all the candidates, election officials and volunteers. Congratulations to the newly elected, we wish them well as they begin their four year terms.

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As our vision statement provides we strive for sustainable prosperity and self-reliance. To achieve this vision for a more prosperous future, we will need to consider our fiscal conditions. We have two more years remaining for capital transfers under the Nisga'a Final Agreement. To provide for our long-term future, how will we address this change? What will be our basis for future wealth generation?

### **PROSPERITY AND THE NASS AREA STRATEGY**

I believe that the key is to continue to secure benefits utilizing our Nass Area Strategy. By this strategy, we have been successful in achieving benefits, the Northwest Transmission Line being but one example. There are a considerable number of mining, natural gas and future hydro energy projects on the horizon. When we capitalize upon these opportunities, we will have secured a reliable stream of revenue for the future. This is what many governments do – they encourage resource development and then gain a share of benefits through royalties, taxation, and revenue sharing. Through the Nass Area Strategy, we will continue to do the same.

And like other governments, NLG will need to consider mitigation of the environmental impacts that will occur as a result of these major development projects. This means that the Nisga'a Nation will have some important decisions to make about what types of development it wishes to participate in, how much development, and understanding the environmental impacts that come with such projects. At NLG, we will continue to be vigilant in protecting the environment and mitigating the affects so that we continue to live off the land as we have since time immemorial.

In addition to royalties, we at Nisga'a Nation ourselves expect to be full participants in any major projects. We will be players and have an ownership interest in hydro development, mining activities, and so on.

The Nisga'a Nation will also continue to benefit by way of jobs and employment income. It has been well identified that there is a direct connection between income and health. This strategy will continue to guide our relations with developers and give practical effect to our long held view that we are open for business.

### **TAXATION**

We will also have to consider the relationship of these developments to taxation. Yes, taxation is indeed coming in 2013. But were you aware that as a result of taxation

agreements with the federal and provincial governments, the tax you pay will come back to the Nisga'a Nation?

When you fill out your return for 2012, if you are resident on Nisga'a Lands, you will be given an opportunity to 'tick the box' that says you are a resident on Nisga'a lands. When you do, you will be ensuring that every dollar of tax you pay comes back to the Nation. Like other governments, these revenues will directly fund the health, education, social programs, infrastructure that Nisga'a government provides to Nisga'a citizens. So, the jobs we gain through the Nass Area Strategy complements the tax revenue you will pay to fund programs to serve Nisga'a Nation.

### **FISCAL RELATIONS**

While our capital transfers come to an end in two years, we will continue to receive funding from our Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA) to fund agreed-upon programs and services that Nisga'a government provides to Nisga'a citizens. This agreement with the federal and provincial governments is up for renewal so we begin to prepare for our negotiation of a new agreement. In doing so we face the challenge of the federal government's proposed approach of 'fiscal harmonization'. We have never agreed to any formula-driven 'one size fits all' approach to the FFA negotiations since it is inconsistent with the requirements of our Treaty. So we will need to begin to prepare early for these discussions.

### **QUALITY OF LIFE**

There is of course a direct connection between prosperity and an improved quality of life. So we will continue our work in improving health, education, social services, infrastructure and other services. Through this strategy, NLG will take a lead role in partnering with our service providers to determine how we can improve the daily lives for our children, our elders, and our families; and carry out those improvements. An improved quality of life also means increasing our capacity as Nation so when these large developments come to the valley, we have a population that is ready to participate more fully in all aspects of resource development.

We have an ambitious agenda ahead of us. But what do you think? I encourage you to share your ideas and recommendations with your elected representatives to bring forward to our legislature and to our executive as we meet in the next few weeks.

# Earthquake Response

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In the evening of Saturday October 27, 2012 a 7.7 magnitude earthquake occurred off the coast of Haida Gwaii.

Gingolx quickly felt the effects of the earthquake and it was also felt by residents in Laxgalts'ap, Gitlaxt'aamiks and Terrace.

Nisga'a Lisims Government and Laxgalts'ap Village Government emergency personnel activated their Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at the Laxgalts'ap Village Government administration building to monitor tsunami update warnings from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre.

We took the following steps:

1. We set up our EOC.
2. We established communications between Gingolx, Laxgalts'ap, Gitlaxt'aamiks and any necessary outside agencies with our satellite phones. Gitwinksihlkw indicated they were ready with help if needed.
3. We worked with the RCMP as they closed the road to Gingolx.
4. We supported Gingolx with their evacuation activities.

5. Emergency social services in Laxgalts'ap were set up.
6. Support for Emergency services was received from Gitlaxt'aamiks.
7. Up-to-date public announcements were posted on nnkn.ca and Facebook.

I am pleased to observe that some of our earlier work in promoting the Nisga'a Nation Emergency Plan, the Earthquake ShakeOut, and updating of our satellite phone system definitely paid off during this event. I can confidently say that in the event of a real tsunami, lives would have been saved.

We would like to acknowledge support from Sherry Bejcar, Andrew Robinson, Cheryl Stephens, Bobby Clark, Darnell Stewart, Lisims RCMP, Nisga'a Valley Health Board, Nisga'a Village of Gingolx staff, Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap staff, Nisga'a Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks staff and all others who assisted in this actual event.

Edward Allen  
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

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## NLG Participates in the Great British Columbia ShakeOut!

At 10:18 am on October 18 2012, Nisga'a Lisims Government along with other organizations such as Village Governments, schools within each Nisga'a village, Nisga'a Valley Health Authority and even the Headstart/ Nusery Schools participated in the Great British Columbia ShakeOut – an annual earthquake preparedness exercise.

The 'Drop, Cover & Hold On' exercise was a great opportunity to promote awareness on the importance



of being prepared. Many participating staff had fun, but also took the time to debrief on the overall exercise.

ShakeOut is an annual event so be sure to register your organization, school or family to participate next year by registering at the ShakeOut website. Check out this link to review additional information regarding this event [www.shakeoutbc.ca](http://www.shakeoutbc.ca)

Way to go all participants!

# Regular Election of Nisga'a Government / November 7, 2012

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The final count for the November 7, 2012 regular election of Nisga'a Government was completed on November 10, 2012. Following is a summary list of elected candidates (in bold) and the vote tally for all candidates. For official notices go to [nnkn.ca](http://nnkn.ca).

## **NATIONAL OFFICE FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE NISGA'A NATION**

- **H. Mitchell Stevens** – elected with **741 accepted votes**
  - Eva Clayton: 557 accepted votes
  - Charles Mathew Morven: 414 accepted votes
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## **NATIONAL OFFICE FOR CHAIRPERSON OF THE NISGA'A NATION**

- **H. Kevin McKay** – elected by Acclamation
- 

## **NATIONAL OFFICE FOR SECRETARY- TREASURER OF THE NISGA'A NATION**

- **Corrine Jane McKay** – elected with **886 accepted votes**
  - Edmond Isaac Wright: 618 accepted votes
  - Curt Kevin Johnson: 186 accepted votes
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## **NATIONAL OFFICE FOR CHAIRPERSON FOR COUNCIL OF ELDERS OF THE NISGA'A NATION**

- **Dorcas Shirley Morven** – elected with **878 accepted votes**
  - Oscar Mercer: 809 accepted votes
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## **CHIEF COUNCILLOR OF THE NISGA'A VILLAGE GOVERNMENT OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS**

- **Gerald Robinson** – elected with **179 accepted votes**
- Keith Tait: 178 accepted votes

## **VILLAGE COUNCILLORS / ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

- **Keith Wayne Clayton**
  - **Arthur B.C. Johnson**
  - **Claude Johnson Morven**
  - **George Melvin Robinson**
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## **CHIEF COUNCILLOR OF THE NISGA'A VILLAGE GOVERNMENT OF GITWINKSIHLKW**

- **Ronald Terry Nyce** – elected by Acclamation

## **VILLAGE COUNCILLORS / ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

- **Tina Marjorie Bolton**
  - **Andrew J.P. Nyce**
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**CHIEF COUNCILLOR OF THE NISGA'A VILLAGE  
GOVERNMENT OF LAXGALTS'AP**

- **M. Henry Moore – elected with 171  
accepted votes**
- Peter Leeson: 118 accepted votes

**VILLAGE COUNCILLORS**

- **Charles I. Leeson – elected with 198  
accepted votes**
- **William A. Moore – elected with 187  
accepted votes**
- **Wallace Clark – elected with 169 accepted votes**
- **G. Craig McKay – elected with 169 accepted votes**
- **Matthew W. Bright – elected with 143  
accepted votes**
- **Willard Martin – elected with 123 accepted votes**
- Hubert W. Haldane: 117 accepted votes
- James Charles Moore: 112 accepted votes
- Fredrick Tait: 106 accepted votes
- Sylvia J. Stephens: 99 accepted votes

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**CHIEF COUNCILLOR OF THE NISGA'A VILLAGE  
GOVERNMENT OF GINGOLX**

- **C. Franklin Alexcee – elected with 85  
accepted votes**
- Henry Y. Stephens: 78 accepted votes
- Melvin Barton: 42 accepted votes

**VILLAGE COUNCILLORS**

- **Claude Nathan Barton –elected with 154  
accepted votes**
- **Gwenny L. Nelson – elected with 123  
accepted votes**
- **John Abel Stewart – elected with 94  
accepted votes**
- **Melanie Doolan – elected with 91 accepted votes**
- **Racheal Stanley – elected with 90 accepted votes**
- Marylee Watts: 86 accepted votes
- Peter G. Stevens Jr.: 85 accepted votes
- George L. Nelson: 75 accepted votes
- Lorne E. Lincoln: 53 accepted votes
- Jeffery W. Stanley: 49 accepted votes
- Richard B. Benson: 40 accepted votes

**NISGA'A URBAN LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
TERRACE NISGA'A SOCIETY**

**NON-NLG DIRECTORS / ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

- **Diana Guno**
- **Sophia Johnson**
- **Marlene Robinson**

**URBAN LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES:**

- **Phyllis Adams – elected with 167 accepted votes**
- **G. Martin Adams – elected with 44 accepted votes**

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**NISGA'A URBAN LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE  
FOR PRINCE RUPERT / PORT EDWARD  
(GITMAXMAK'AY) NISGA'A SOCIETY**

**NON-NLG DIRECTORS / ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

- **Jacob Phillip McKay**
- **Farley Stewart**
- **Colissa St. Louis**

**URBAN LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- **Clifford Morgan – elected with 159 accepted  
votes**
- **Juanita Parnell – elected with 113 accepted votes**
- Clarence Martin: 96 accepted votes
- G. Leslie Clayton: 87 accepted votes
- Ralph Bright: 36 accepted votes

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**NISGA'A URBAN REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
NISGA'A VANCOUVER (TS'AMIKS) SOCIETY**

**NON-NLG DIRECTORS / ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

- **Travis Garrett Angus**
- **Blanche Christine Stewart**
- **Stephanie Lynne Yucesoy**

**URBAN LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- **Edna Nyce – elected with 81 accepted votes**
- **Marcia P. Guno – elected with 78 accepted votes**
- Daniel Jorgensen: 39 accepted votes
- J. Clifford Azak: 37 accepted votes

# Human Resources / NLG New Job Announcements

## **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

It gives me great pleasure to formally announce that **Brian Fitzpatrick** has officially taken the reigns as our new Chief Financial Officer. Brian comes to Nisga'a Lisims Government from the National Centre for First Nations Governance in Ottawa, where he held the position of Director of Finance for the past five years. As a Certified Management Accountant with many years of executive level experience, Brian is well-equipped to step into the role as the head of our Finance department.

Please join me in welcoming Brian to the NLG team . . . and to beautiful BC, home of the Nisga'a Nation.

## **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

I am very pleased to announce that **Shawn Ducharme** has started full time with Nisga'a Lisims Government as one of our new Enforcement Officers. As many of us are already aware, Shawn has worked with NLG in various temporary or seasonal capacities over the past several years, most predominantly within the Fisheries and Wildlife Directorate. Shawn's training, skills, experience and intimate knowledge of the Valley will undoubtedly assist with his success in his new position.

Please join me in welcoming Shawn to the NLG team!

## **DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF LAND TITLES**

I am pleased to announce that **Dorothy Elliott** has officially accepted the appointment of Deputy Registrar of Land Titles. This is an exciting milestone and a brand new position for Nisga'a Lisims Government. After much dedication to extensive training and understudy, Dorothy is well equipped for the challenge of this new position!

Please join me in congratulating Dorothy on her success in this competition!

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS ADMINISTRATOR**

It gives me great pleasure to formally announce that **Eric Nyce** has joined the NLG team as the Capital Projects Administrator. Eric is returning home to the valley having spent many years away in pursuit of his education and professional endeavours. Eric comes to NLG from the District of Kitimat having worked in the Engineering department for the past 8+ years. Eric's knowledge and experience make him well equipped to tackle the NLG capital initiatives in progress, and plan for the projects on the horizon.

Please join me in welcoming Eric to the NLG team!

## **MANAGER / AYUUKHL NISGA'A DEPARTMENT**

It gives me great pleasure to officially announce that **Bev Azak** has joined the NLG team as the Manager of our Ayuukhl Nisga'a Department. Bev comes to us from School District 92 where she has been teaching for the past 8 years. Bev brings with her a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience which make her well equipped to Manage the department initiatives to protect, preserve and promote our Nisga'a language, culture and history.

Please join me in welcoming Bev to the NLG team!

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT / ENROLMENT AND ELIGIBILITY DEPARTMENT**

It gives me great pleasure to announce that **Ursula Adams** has accepted the full time continuing position as Administrative Assistant to the Enrolment and Eligibility Department at Nisga'a Lisims Government. Having worked in this department in a temporary capacity for nearly a year, Ursula has proven herself to be a trusted and valuable resource for both the department and for Nisga'a citizens.

Please join me in congratulating Ursula on her success in this competition!



**I congratulate and welcome everyone to their respective positions within Nisga'a Lisims Government.**

Cheryl Pelletier, CHRP / Manager, Human Resources / Nisga'a Lisims Government



# Nisga'a Individual Landholding Project Update

At its meeting of October 25, 2012 the Executive passed the required regulations that bring the *Nisga'a Landholding Transition Act* into effect. This means that the project is now moving into an 'implementation' phase, starting with education for Nisga'a citizens and Village Government staff. The purpose of these educational sessions is to give everyone a chance to learn how to use the new legislation, and to understand what needs to happen for Nisga'a citizens to get fee simple title to residentially zoned lands in Nisga'a villages.

Community education will start in mid-November, and community information sessions will be held in each of the seven Nisga'a communities. Please watch for the session in your community, or check the [nkn.ca](http://nkn.ca) website for confirmed dates.

These sessions will be of interest to Nisga'a citizens that are interested in owning a residential lot in a Nisga'a Village, whether or not they currently own a Nisga'a Village Entitlement or Nisga'a Nation Entitlement. Please feel free to attend any session if the one scheduled for your community is not convenient for you.

LOCATION	DATE	MEETING PLACE
Terrace	November 13, 7:00 PM	Terrace Nisga'a Society Community Room
Gingolx	November 19, 7:00 PM	Gingolx Long House
Laxgalts'ap	November 20, 7:00 PM	Laxgalts'ap Community Centre Cafeteria Area
Prince Rupert	November 23, 7:00 PM	Nisga'a Hall
Gitlaxt'aamiks	TBD	TBD
Gitwinksihlkw	TBD	TBD
Vancouver	December 6, 7:00 PM	St. David's Church Hall Basement

## NLG Welcomes Visitors from Guatemala



Damaris Elizabeth Tujal Sir and Norma Lucrecia Lopez Hernandez of Guatemala were warmly welcomed to Nisga'a Lisims Government by President Stevens on October 24.

Ms. Sir and Ms. Lopez were visiting friends in the Nass Valley and took the time to tour Nisga'a Lisims Government and had the privilege of a short meet and greet with President Stevens. President Stevens happily answered questions and provided information on the history of the Nisga'a Nation, our Treaty and governance structure.

# Gingolx Officially Opens Community Hall / NLG Presents \$20,000 to the Community

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Saturday, October 13, 2012 – Gingolx officially opened its Community Hall and welcomed the many gathered to witness this important community event. One of the key highlights of the event was the presentation by NLG of \$20,000 to contribute towards sports and recreation activities.

The ceremonies began with the blessing of the exterior and interior of the hall by Reverend Harry Moore, Sim'oogit Luudisdoos, followed by the Ribbon cutting ceremony performed by Rose Stevens & child, Laura Doolan & child, Rose Oscar & child and Lavinia Clayton & child.

Finally, the name of the hall was called: *Wilp Han'ii Amgootkws Git'Gingolx*, the Gingolx Memorial Recreation Centre. This was done by a Sim'oogit from each of the 4 tribes: Sim'oogit Kw'ax̄suu, Stuart Doolan; Sim'oogit Haym'aas, Chester Moore; Sim'oogit W'ii Lax̄ha, Peter Stevens Sr.; and Sim'oogit Sim'oogidim X̄sgaak Alvin Nelson. Guests were then drummed into the hall and seated.

The new hall has many of the amenities of the recently constructed halls in the valley; a vastly increased size of gym floor covered by a protective rug system to preserve the floor during community events. It has a great sound system, and plenty of seating with bleachers for sporting and other events. It also has an ultra modern kitchen that can be used for feasts.

Before dinner was served, many mingled and had a chance to hear the Gingolx Concert Band. Everyone was then treated to delicious Jubilee Hall soup prepared by the ladies of Gingolx. All in attendance received yeek, and a great mug with a picture of the community hall on the cover.

There were also some special guests in attendance including two Members of the Legislative Assembly, Robin Austin and Gary Coons. The All Native Tournament Committee presented two tournament passes to the All Native Tournament to the community. As well, CFNR was providing on site broadcasts throughout the day to share the event with those listening in other communities. Many of these guests received gifts from the community.

One highlight was the presentation by NLG President Mitchell Stevens to Gingolx Chief Councilor Nelson Clayton of \$20,000 for sports and recreation activities. As President Stevens read the letter to the Chief Councilor announcing the contribution, by all appearances, Chief Clayton was pleasantly surprised as he graciously thanked NLG for its generous gift.

The evening closed with some further musical performances from the community.

Overall, it was a great day to be in Gingolx to witness the final completion and official opening of Gingolx's beautiful hall. Congratulations Gingolx!

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Nisga'a  
Lisims  
Government

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October 12, 2012

**Gingolx Village Government**  
P.O. Box 200  
Greenville, B.C. V0J 1B0

**Attention: Chief and Council**

**Re: Grand Opening of Gingolx Recreation Centre**

On behalf of Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive, we write to congratulate you and the Gingolx Village Government on the Grand Opening of the Gingolx Recreation Centre. We would like to extend our sincerest appreciation for the opportunity to share in the celebration of the Grand Opening of this very beautiful facility. The Village of Gingolx should take great pride in this new facility which will no doubt serve as a centre of pride and excellence for the citizens of Gingolx. On the occasion of this Grand Opening, Nisga'a Lisims Government is contributing an amount of \$20,000.00 to enable the Gingolx Village Government to undertake any initiatives in support of Sports and Recreation activities.

Again, congratulations on this wonderful achievement.

Yours truly,

**NISGA'A LISIMS GOVERNMENT**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Mitchell Stevens".

H. Mitchell Stevens  
President



# Lisims RCMP Unveils New Art Addition to Detachment

On October 12, 2012, in Gitlaxt'aamix, Sgt. Donovan Tait hosted ceremonies to unveil a new piece of art that will adorn the Lisims RCMP Detachment, a print designed by Nisga'a artist Brad Percival.

As Sgt Tait mentioned in his comments to the crowd that gathered to witness the ceremonies, he was always concerned that while the exterior of the building had beautiful Nisga'a crests, there was no Nisga'a art inside the detachment. So one day Brad Percival showed up with a piece that illustrated the relationship between the RCMP and the Nisga'a Nation.

Superintendent Booth, whose area of responsibility included 75% of the province's territory, indicated that when he heard about the ceremony to unveil this piece, he was delighted and excited to travel all the way from Prince George just to attend.

Dr. Joseph Gosnell, Sim'oojit Hleek, spoke of the importance of history and culture. In order to know where you are going, Dr. Gosnell stated, you need to remember "nda wil w'it'win" i.e. "where you come from." Dr. Gosnell stated that the relationship between the RCMP and the Nisga'a Nation needed to be cared for on both sides. "Respect who we are," he stated, "and we will respect you in turn." The Chair of the Council of Elders Sim'oojit Ksim Xsaan

– Oscar Mercer also thanked Sgt. Tait for his wisdom in hosting such an event.

The Chair also called upon the NLG President Mitchell Stevens to address the crowd. "This is a great day for all Canadians as we dispel the myth that the Nisga'a Nation wanted to be a separate country." Instead, he expressed his appreciation for the diversity that we enjoy in Canada such that Nisga'a Nation need not reinvent the wheel and establish its own police force. Instead, President Stevens stated, "we have the option to bring the RCMP into the community to provide appropriate services to Nisga'a citizens just like any other level of government in Canada."

Brad Percival unveiled the piece and spoke of the influences in the print: the maple leaf, the Hayatskw, the four crests of the Nisga'a Nation, and the RCMP emblem. Brad has conceptualized a piece that brings together many ideas that strengthen the relationship of the RCMP to the Nisga'a Nation.

Finally, the crowd was delighted to see Susan Guno also being honoured as the person who orients all the new detachment employees. Apparently, Sgt Donovan Tait is the 10th detachment commander that Susan has worked under since she started working with the RCMP.

Overall, it was a great afternoon enjoyed by all.

## Dress for the Cause 2012

Nisga'a Lisims Government and Nisga'a Elections staff participated in the Breast Cancer Society of Canada's Dress for the Cause 2012. Centre in the Speaker's Chair is Cindy Clayton, who is celebrating her third year of being cancer free! NLG staff have participated in the Society's Dress for the Cause campaign since 2006 and through individual staff donations have contributed over \$3,500 in 6 years!



# Nisga'a Artist Norman Tait to Receive BC Achievement Award

*From the BC Achievement Foundation*

VANCOUVER / Premier Christy Clark and British Columbia Achievement Foundation Chair Keith Mitchell today announced the 2012 BC Creative Achievement Award recipients for First Nations' Art.

**"We are honored to recognize the six artists named today for their creative excellence and cultural contributions," said Premier Clark. "We all celebrate the traditional and contemporary interpretations of the stories of the First Nations from across the Province."**

Norman Tait, a Nisga'a artist from Vancouver, was named the recipient of the 2012 Creative Lifetime Achievement Award for First Nations' Art, a prestigious award given to an artist who has made a profound impact on the community and First Nations' culture.

The 2012 award recipients of the Annual BC Creative Achievement Awards for First Nations' Art, a juried competition celebrating artistic excellence in traditional, contemporary or media art are:

- Wayne Alfred, Kwakwaka'wakw, Alert Bay
- Morgan Green, Tsimshian, Vancouver
- Philip Janze, Gitksan, Hazelton
- Skeena Reece, Tsimshian/Gitksan/Cree, Ucluelet
- David Wilson, Okanagan, Vernon

"From carving to jewelry to painting and performance art, these award-winning artists join 45 artists previously recognized with these awards," said Mitchell. "It is the Foundation's great privilege to recognize excellence in First Nations' art."

The five juried award recipients will each receive \$5,000 and the seal of the British Columbia Creative Achievement Award for First Nations' Art.

Premier Clark will present the awards at a ceremony to be held on Nov. 19, 2012 in Vancouver. The BC Creative Achievement Awards for First Nations' Art are presented with the generous support of Polygon Homes Ltd.

Kathleen Bartels, director of the Vancouver Art Gallery and a director of the BC Achievement Foundation, chaired an independent jury panel that selected the 2012 award recipients. The jurors included Brenda Crabtree, Aboriginal program manager, Emily Carr University of Art and Design; Bill McLennan, curator, Pacific Northwest, UBC Museum of Anthropology, Richard Sumner, Kwakwaka'wakw carver and artist and recipient of a 2010 BC Creative Achievement Award for First Nations' art and Cathi Charles Wherry, art program manager, First People's Heritage, Language and Culture Council.

The British Columbia Achievement Foundation was established and endowed by the Province of British Columbia in 2003 to celebrate excellence and achievement in the arts, humanities, enterprise and community service. For information on British Columbia Achievement Foundation, visit: [www.bcachievement.com](http://www.bcachievement.com)



Norman Tait



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November 1, 2012

**Norman Tait**  
Holy Family Hospital  
7801 Argyle St.  
Vancouver, BC V5P 3L6

Simo'ogit Gawaak,

**Re: Congratulation on BC Lifetime Achievement Award**

We understand that the Premiere of British Columbia Christy Clark has announced that you are to receive the Creative Lifetime Achievement Award for First Nations' Art from the BC Achievement Award Foundation for your 'profound impact on the community and First Nations' culture.'

Certainly such recognition is due to you. You have spent many years studying the art of our ancestors and through your labours have continued many of our great cultural traditions, bringing them forward to contemporary generations. You were one of the first Nisga'a artists in nearly a century to raise a Nisga'a totem pole. You were one of the first Nisga'a to carve and launch a canoe, and undertake a historic canoe voyage along our BC coastline. You have been an artistic pioneer and your works can be found in the great art collections world over, bringing further recognition to the Nisga'a culture.

Moreover, your achievements have inspired a generation of Nisga'a who are dedicated to the arts and living our cultural way of life. You shared what you had learned with some of the next generation of great Nisga'a artists. Today, all our Nisga'a Villages have artists who can carve and raise totem poles, and each year our young people engage in annual canoe journeys along the BC coast with other First Nations.

On behalf of a grateful Nisga'a Nation, I wish to congratulate on your most recent award.

Si'aamhl Wilsim' Simo'ogit Gawaak



H.. Mitchell Stevens  
President

# Highlights from NLG Executive Meeting October 24–25, 2012

The following is a summary, and for certain resolutions an excerpt, of NLG resolutions from the most recent meeting of the NLG Executive.

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## **Resolution / Adopted Oct 24, 2012** **Draft Final Budget 2012/2013**

### CONSIDERING THAT:

the Nisga'a Finance Committee considered the draft Final Budget (version 3) of the Nisga'a Nation for the 2012/2013 fiscal year (the "Draft Final Budget 2012/2013") and recommended that the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive (the "Executive") approve the Draft Final Budget 2012/2013 and forward it to Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a for its review and approval;

### MOVED THAT:

the Executive  
(1) approve, and  
(2) recommend that Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a consider and adopt  
the Draft Final Budget 2012/2013, substantially in the form attached to this motion.

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## **Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012** **Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Landholding Transition Act In Force Regulation**

### CONSIDERING THAT:

Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a enacted the *Nisga'a Landholding Transition Act*, NLGSR 2009/02 (the "Act"), on October 29, 2009;

the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive now wishes to bring the Act into force;

### MOVED THAT:

1. the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive enact, under the Act, the *Nisga'a Landholding Transition Act In Force Regulation* attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Regulation");
2. the Regulation come into force on the date that it is signed in accordance with this motion;
3. the Chairperson of Nisga'a Lisims Government be authorized to sign the Regulation to evidence its enactment.

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## **Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012** **Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Landholding Transition Regulation**

### CONSIDERING THAT:

the *Nisga'a Landholding Transition Act*, NLGSR 2009/02 (the "Act"), is now in force;

### MOVED THAT:

1. the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive enact, under the Act, the Nisga'a Landholding Transition Regulation attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Regulation");
2. the Regulation come into force on the date that it is signed in accordance with this motion;
3. the Chairperson of Nisga'a Lisims Government be authorized to sign the Regulation to evidence its enactment.

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## **Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012** **Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Land Title Act In Force Regulation**

### CONSIDERING THAT:

Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a enacted the *Nisga'a Land Title Act*, NLGSR 2010/06 (the "Act"), on October 28, 2010;

the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive now wishes to bring the Act into force;

### MOVED THAT:

1. the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive enact, under the Act, the *Nisga'a Land Title Act In Force Regulation* attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Regulation");
2. the Regulation come into force on the date that it is signed in accordance with this motion;
3. the Chairperson of Nisga'a Lisims Government be authorized to sign the Regulation to evidence its enactment.

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**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**

**Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Land Title Regulation**

CONSIDERING THAT:

the *Nisga'a Land Title Act*, NLGSR 2010/06 (the "Act"), is now in force;

MOVED THAT:

1. the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive enact, under the Act, the Nisga'a Land Title Regulation attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Regulation");
2. the Regulation come into force on the date that it is signed in accordance with this motion;
3. the Chairperson of Nisga'a Lisims Government be authorized to sign the Regulation to evidence its enactment.

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**

**Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Law and Equity Act In Force Regulation**

CONSIDERING THAT:

Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a enacted the *Nisga'a Law and Equity Act*, NLGSR 2010/07 (the "Act"), on October 28, 2010;

the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive now wishes to bring the Act into force;

MOVED THAT:

1. the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive enact, under the Act, the *Nisga'a Law and Equity Act In Force Regulation* attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Regulation");
2. the Regulation come into force on the date that it is signed in accordance with this motion;
3. the Chairperson of Nisga'a Lisims Government be authorized to sign the Regulation to evidence its enactment.

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**

**Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Partition of Property Act In Force Regulation**

CONSIDERING THAT:

Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a enacted the *Nisga'a Partition of Property Act*, NLGSR 2010/08 (the "Act"), on October 28, 2010;

the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive now wishes to bring the Act into force;

MOVED THAT:

1. the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive enact, under the Act, the *Nisga'a Partition of Property Act In Force Regulation* attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Regulation");
2. the Regulation come into force on the date that it is signed in accordance with this motion;
3. the Chairperson of Nisga'a Lisims Government be authorized to sign the Regulation to evidence its enactment.

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**

**Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Property Law Act In Force Regulation**

CONSIDERING THAT:

Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a enacted the *Nisga'a Property Law Act*, NLGSR 2010/09 (the "Act"), on October 28, 2010;

the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive now wishes to bring the Act into force;

MOVED THAT:

1. the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive enact, under the Act, the *Nisga'a Property Law Act In Force Regulation* attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Regulation");
2. the Regulation come into force on the date that it is signed in accordance with this motion;
3. the Chairperson of Nisga'a Lisims Government be authorized to sign the Regulation to evidence its enactment.

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**

**Lands and Resources – Nisga'a Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act**

CONSIDERING THAT it is desirable that certain amendments to the *Nisga'a Land Title Act* and the *Nisga'a Interpretation Act* be undertaken;

MOVED THAT the Executive recommend to Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a the *Nisga'a Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act*, 2012, attached to this motion as Appendix "A".

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**  
**Nass Area Enterprises Limited Partnership –**  
**License of Occupation**

CONSIDERING THAT Nass Area Enterprises Limited Partnership has applied for a license of occupation enabling it to establish a construction camp at a site on the Cranberry Junction fee simple lands.

MOVED THAT

1. The Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive (the "Executive") grant to Nass Area Enterprises Limited Partnership a license of occupation substantially in the form attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "License"), as follows:
  - (a) the Director of Lands and Resources (the "Director"), on behalf of the Executive, be authorized to complete Article 3.1 and Article 6.3 of the License and to deliver the License to Nass Area Enterprises Limited Partnership, for execution and return, and
  - (b) upon the execution and return of the License by Nass Area Enterprises Limited Partnership to the Director, the Director be authorized to execute the License on behalf of the Executive.

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**  
**Finance – BC / Nisga'a Nation Personal Income**  
**Tax Revenue Sharing Agreement**

CONSIDERING THAT a proposal has been made for the Nisga'a Nation to enter into an income tax revenue sharing agreement with British Columbia in the form attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Revenue Sharing Agreement");

AND CONSIDERING FURTHER THAT the Nisga'a Finance Committee has reviewed and approved the Revenue Sharing Agreement;

MOVED THAT the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive endorse the Revenue Sharing Agreement and recommend its ratification to Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a.

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**  
**CEO – Appointment of Brian Fitzpatrick as CFO**

CONSIDERING THAT:

under Executive Resolution 2009/90, the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive (the "Executive") directed the Chief Executive Officer to appointed Mr. Jason Chan to the position of Director of Finance, now the position of Chief Financial Officer, under section 14(1) of the *Nisga'a Financial Administration Act* (the "Chief Financial Officer Position");

Mr. Chan's resignation from the Chief Financial Officer Position, effective October 26, 2012, has created a vacancy in that position;

MOVED THAT:

1. the Executive direct the Chief Executive Officer to appoint Mr Brian Fitzpatrick to the Chief Financial Officer Position; and
2. Mr. Fitzpatrick's appointment to the Chief Financial Officer Position be effective November 13, 2012.

**Resolution / Adopted Oct 25, 2012**  
**CEO – General**

CONSIDERING THAT the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive (the "Executive") in Resolution 2010/110 authorized the Director of Finance, then Jason Chan, to hold all liquor licences on behalf of the Nisga'a Nation;

Mr. Chan has resigned from the position of Chief Financial Officer (the position formerly known as the Director of Finance) effective October 26, 2012;

The appointment of Brian Fitzpatrick as Chief Financial Officer for Nisga'a Lisims Government will not be effective until November 13, 2012;

MOVED THAT the Nisga'a Lisims Executive authorize the Executive Director, now Cheryl Stephens, to hold all liquor licences on behalf of the Nisga'a Nation until otherwise directed by the Executive.

*In addition to the items referenced above, regular business carried out by the Executive of Nisga'a Lisims Government includes opening prayer, adoption of agenda, minutes and financial statements.*

# Highlights from Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a, October 29–31, 2012

The following is a summary, and for certain resolutions an excerpt, of Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a (WSN) resolutions from the most recent meeting of the WSN.

## Resolution / Adopted Oct 29, 2012

CONSIDERING THAT pursuant to Section 32 of the *Nisga'a Financial Administration Act*, the Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a must adopt a final budget for the Nisga'a Nation for the current fiscal year; and

CONSIDERING FURTHER THAT the Executive has adopted and recommended for adoption by the Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a the draft final budget for the Nisga'a Nation for the 2012/2013 fiscal year;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS MOVED THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a hereby adopts the final budget for the Nisga'a Nation for the 2012/2013 fiscal year, attached as Schedule "A" to this motion.

## Resolution / Adopted Oct 30, 2012

CONSIDERING THAT a proposal has been made for the Nisga'a Nation to enter into an income tax administration agreement with Canada in the form attached to this motion as Appendix "A" ("the Administration Agreement");

NOW THEREFORE IT IS MOVED THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a request and consider a report from the Nisga'a Finance Committee on the Administration Agreement.

## Resolution / Adopted Oct 30, 2012

CONSIDERING THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a has requested and considered a report from the Nisga'a Finance Committee on a proposed income tax administration agreement between the Nisga'a Nation and Canada in the form attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Administration Agreement");

NOW THEREFORE IT IS MOVED THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a ratify the Administration Agreement and recommend that the Nisga'a Nation, as represented by the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive, enter into an agreement with Canada substantially in the form of the Administration Agreement.

## Resolution / Adopted Oct 30, 2012

CONSIDERING THAT a proposal has been made for the Nisga'a Nation to enter into an income tax revenue sharing agreement with British Columbia in the form attached to this motion as Appendix "A" ("the Revenue Sharing Agreement");

NOW THEREFORE IT IS MOVED THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a request and consider a report from the Nisga'a Finance Committee on the Revenue Sharing Agreement.

## Resolution / Adopted Oct 30, 2012

CONSIDERING THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a has requested and considered a report from the Nisga'a Finance Committee on a proposed income tax revenue sharing agreement between the Nisga'a Nation and British Columbia, in the form attached to this motion as Appendix "A" (the "Revenue Sharing Agreement");

NOW THEREFORE IT IS MOVED THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a ratify the Revenue Sharing Agreement and recommend that the Nisga'a Nation, as represented by the Nisga'a Lisims Government Executive, enter into an agreement with British Columbia substantially in the form of the Revenue Sharing Agreement.

## Resolution / Adopted Oct 31, 2012

CONSIDERING THAT it is desirable for Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a to enact certain amendments to the *Nisga'a Land Title Act* and the *Nisga'a Interpretation Act*;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS MOVED THAT Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a enact the *Nisga'a Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2012* attached to this motion as Appendix "A".

*In addition to the items referenced above, regular business carried out by the members of Wilp Si'yayuukhl Nisga'a (WSN) includes opening prayer and adoption of agenda.*

# Abby Stewart of Gingolx receives Award

## Abby Stewart of Gingolx receives the Crime Prevention and Community Safety Award from the Ministry of Justice.

This award, named after Const. Kenneth M. Lemckert, recognizes an individual who has provided exemplary leadership in the area of community policing. Since 1998, the Ministry has recognized individuals, groups and programs that have made outstanding contributions to their communities by presenting the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Awards. Led by the Ministry, the recipients of these awards are selected by the provincial Safe Communities Working Group based on nominees submitted by law enforcement, community groups and the general public. This award is presented to those who have provided exemplary leadership in the area of community policing.

This good news story is yet another example of the excellent working relationship that has been established with the RCMP under Detachment Commander Donovan Tait's leadership and the people in the community.

The award ceremony took place at the Delta Burnaby Hotel and Conference Centre, 4331 Dominion Street on Friday November 2nd, 2012 at the BCCPA Crime Prevention Symposium between 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm.

Congratulations Abby!

## Nisga'a Museum schedule update

As of November 1, 2012 the Museum is officially closed for the winter season but will accept visitors by advanced bookings only. Please call 250 633 3050 to book your tour. Tours are from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (last tour for the day). Please contact the Museum staff if you cannot make your scheduled visit.



**Rates:** **ADULTS** – \$8.00 (aged 18-59)  
**CHILD** – \$5.00 (aged 6-17)  
**FREE** – Aged 60+ and 5 and under  
**FAMILY RATE** – \$22.00, includes two adults and up to 4 children  
**GROUP RATES** – \$5.00 per person, teachers and chaperones are free of charge. Please book tours in advance and state how many in the group and how many chaperones. Large groups receive 15% discounts.



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