President’s Message

Hoobiyee!
A new season of harvest has begun for the Nisga’a Nation. The oolichans have arrived and I’m sure many Nisga’a families have had their first feed and are well underway with the harvest.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Mr. Keith Azak who took his oath of office in February to serve the Nisga’a Urban Local of Terrace as the Non-Executive Member.

I would also like to acknowledge Mr. Gary Patsey, NEST Manager and the staff in our Nisga’a Employment, Skills & Training (NEST) office for successfully hosting NEST 360 – a two-day conference in Terrace on February 23–24.

continued on page 2

Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia
Judith Guichon visits the Nass Valley

As part of her tour of the northern region of the province this week, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Her Honour Judith Guichon visited the Nass Valley the evening of Tuesday February 24, 2015.

Her Honour was provided a tour of the Nisga’a Legislature at Nisga’a Lisims Government in Gitla xt’aamiks and then proceeded on to the Nisga’a Museum in Lax̱g̱als’ap where she was greeted by Lax̱g̱als’ap Chief Councillor Henry

continued on page 2
Well over one hundred Nisga’a citizens participated in the event and had the opportunity to learn more and share their ideas about marine and pipeline safety, as well as LNG-related employment and training opportunities that are on the horizon. It is important that our citizens take the initiative to learn and prepare themselves for opportunities that will be available to them.

Representatives of Northern Savings Credit Union recently visited the Nass Valley to meet with Secretary-Treasurer Corinne McKay and Registrar of Land Titles Diane Cragg. With the Nisga’a Landholding Transition Act now in force, Nisga’a citizens who choose to own their residential property in fee simple can now approach lending institutions for a mortgage. We are happy that NSCU has committed to establishing a relationship with the Nisga’a Nation and we encourage aspiring homeowners to learn more about homeownership and financial literacy associated with acquiring a mortgage.

The Nisga’a Valley Health Authority is currently undergoing community consultations to get input and feedback from the Nisga’a Nation on health services. It is important that Nisga’a citizens participate as the information collected will be compiled into a National Health Plan.

In closing, I hope everyone enjoys the annual Hoobiye celebrations that will be hosted by the Nisga’a Village of Gingolx on March 13 and 14 and also extend best wishes to all of our young Nisga’a basketball teams that will be travelling south for their annual spring break tournament.

Thank you,

Sim’oogit K’aw’een / H. Mitchell Stevens
President
Barbara Zvatora Apologizes to Diane Cragg and Angela D’Elia

I, Barbara Zvatora, apologize to both Diane Cragg and Angela D’Elia for stating or implying that either of them engaged in illegal, unprofessional or inappropriate conduct as agents or employees of the Nisga’a Nation or at all. I will not repeat any such allegations and I acknowledge that the imputations against Ms. Cragg and Ms. D’Elia published by me in my letter dated on October 9, 2008 addresed to Kevin McKay under the title of “Continuing Inaction Nisga’a Lisims Government Executive/Wilp S’ayuu Khl Nisga’a” in connection with certain events in Gitwinksihlkw in 2006 were untrue and entirely without foundation. I sincerely regret any embarrassment or inconvenience that my words may have caused to those professionals.

Dated the 6th day of January, 2015.

Barbara Zvatora

This document is an apology from Barbara Zvatora to NLG’s Registrar of Land Titles, Diane Cragg, and former In-House Legal Counsel, Angela D’Elia. Ms. Cragg and Ms. D’Elia brought a lawsuit against Ms. Zvatora as a result of false suggestions Ms. Zvatora published in 2008. The lawsuit has now been settled, and the Supreme Court of British Columbia has issued an order restraining Ms. Zvatora from any repetition of the same or any similar publication.

BC First Nations Chiefs to Express Support for the Eagle Spirit Energy Oil Pipeline Project in Northern British Columbia

IN A FEBRUARY 11 NEWS RELEASE, a number of BC First Nations Chief’s announced their support for Eagle Spirit Energy – a First Nations-owned business that is proposing an environmentally friendly alternative to Enbridge’s northern gateway pipeline.

The basis of their support is that they will be equal business partners throughout the life of a given project and not be on the outside looking in.

The following is an excerpt listing the principles of the declaration of support:

The following principles represent the position of First Nation People in BC as it relates to resource and other developments.

WE DECLARE THAT WE:

• are the owners and stewards of the land;
• must provide permission and consent to any project in our territory;
• must have a fair and equitable share in any project that occurs on, or runs through, our territory;
• will create the Environmental Regulations for all land-based developments based on our own Traditional Laws, that will set the standards world-wide;
• will remain the Stewards of Land, and will have sole responsibility to monitor all projects as they are developed, and throughout their life-cycle;
• WILL determine which projects will be approved through a strict decision-making process which considers such factors as environmental impacts, stewardship and sustainability; adherence with our Traditional Laws and the Economic Value to our Nations; and
• DECLARE that our land is not for sale and will not be leveraged, but we will engage in projects where we have ownership.

Keith Azak takes Oath of Office to represent the Nisg̱a’a Urban Local of Terrace

FEBRUARY 18, 2015 / As a first order of business at the monthly meeting of the NLG Executive, newly elected Non-Executive representative Keith Azak took his Oath of Office to represent the Nisg̱a’a Urban Local of Terrace. Keith was the successful candidate in a recent by-election to fill the vacancy.

At the conclusion of the short ceremony witnessed by members of the Executive and Keith’s family – Chairperson of the Council of Elders Sigidimná’ Ang̱ay’e – Shirley Morven proclaimed Mr. Azak the youngest serving member of the current complement of elected representatives that comprise Wilp Sí’ayuuḵí Nisg̱a’a (WSN). Congratulations Keith Azak!

For more photos of Keith’s oath of office ceremony, visit our photo album: http://nisgaanation.zenfolio.com/p917091856.

NLG Human Resources Update

We are pleased to formally announce some new additions and a number of staffing changes at Nisg̱a’a Lisims Government.

First, NLG is pleased to welcome Denise Verreault in a new position: Deputy Director of Programs & Services. Denise brings to the position a vast variety of experience from First Nations, political, administrative and private sector organizations. Denise comes to us most recently from the Government of Alberta. Ms. Verreault obtained her Bachelor of Science from Concordia University in 2003 and is currently working on her Masters of Arts from Athabasca University.

Denise will be working closely with the Director of Programs & Services Roberta Stewart and will be primarily responsible for the oversight of Post-Secondary education funding; Youth Organizing Youth; Ayuuḵí Nisg̱a’a Department; delivery of programs and services with two Urban Locals; contract management with WWNI and School District #92 (Nisg̱a’a).

In February 2015, the NLG Executive authorized the creation of a new position in the Lands & Resources Directorate. Over recent years, the workload within the office of the Director of Lands & Resources has grown extensively, warranting the creation of position: Deputy Director of Lands & Resources.

NLG is pleased to announce that Mansell Griffin has been temporarily appointed to the position until March 31st during which time the position will be formally posted and filled permanently.

Also announced at the February Executive meeting, the search for the new Chief Financial Officer has concluded. Mr. Terry Holt will commence work with NLG on Monday March 9, 2015.

Further to the recent departure of Darrin Martens as Director of the Nisg̱a’a Museum, Assistant Curator Zora McMillan has been temporarily appointed as interim Museum Curator until April 30. More updates will follow as decisions are made regarding next steps during the transition.

Finally, NLG is pleased to announce that Human Resources Manager Cheryl Pelletier’s application to the recently posted position of Human Resources Director was successful. As highlighted in the Executive Resolutions, Chief Executive Officer Collier Azak appointed Ms. Pelletier to the Human Resources Director position which was approved by the NLG Executive in February 2015.

Congratulations to all!
February 25, 2015 was Anti-Bullying Day and Nisga’a Lisims Government proudly joined in the stand against bullying by wearing PINK!

Bullying is a problem that occurs daily and is especially prevalent at school, at home, at the workplace and online. Initiatives like Pink Shirt Day promote awareness that bullying is wrong and unnecessary.

Nisga’a Lisims Government’s Human Resources department once again partnered with the Laxgals’ap Village Government to acquire specially designed pink t-shirts adorned with the Nisga’a phrase:

Amaa ga’adihl wilaa algaxän, dim saa šgeksa’aninhł ġoothl silgadin / Be careful what you say, you may hurt the heart of your fellow man
It was an excellent and inspiring display of respect as several Nisga’a youth took their oath of office as newly elected members of the Nisga’a Youth Advisory Council (NYAC). The Oath, administered by Chairperson of the Council of Elders Sigidimnak’ Angaye’e – Shirley Morven, was the first order of business on the agenda for NYAC’s quarterly meeting.

Nisga’a Youth participation offers them ample opportunity to learn about Nisga’a Government, and interact with their elected officials and elders so that they may articulate and identify their own vision and priorities for all Nisga’a Youth of the Nation and becoming young, active members in their communities. In her congratulatory remarks following the ceremony, Director of Programs & Services Roberta Stewart encouraged the youth, “…this is your Council, your vision, your plan, we’ll be here to support your initiatives.”

In addition to the ceremony, the youth meeting included an opportunity for members’ statements; the reading and adoption of the NYAC’s Terms of Reference (ToR); Reports from each of the 7 Nisga’a Youth Councils and discussions for the planning and development of annual workplans for the coming fiscal year.

Si’Aamhl wilsimi and congratulations to Nisga’a Youth:

Gitlaxt’aamiiks / Aiden Clayton; Samuel Dyer; Isaiah Guo; Jonah Morven; Emma Robinson; Missing was Sierra Ousey

Gitwinksihlkw / Drae Azak; Christopher Williams

Laxcalts’ap / Hannah Robinson; Missing were Darrian Mills and Genna Yeomans

Gitmaxmak’ay / Selina Nelson; Benjamin Spencer

Visit our photo album to view the youth oath of office ceremony: http://nisgaanation.zenfolio.com/p218410966.
New Nisga’a Citizenship Application Introduced

The Enrolment and Eligibility department is pleased to introduce the new Nisga’a Citizenship Application for new members.

This form can be printed, filled out and submitted or filled out online, printed and submitted.

The form is available online: www.nisgaanation.ca/sites/default/files/Nisgaa_Citizenship_Application_Form_2015%20%282%29.pdf.

All completed and signed application forms with photocopies of documentation can be submitted by:

MAIL:
Nisga’a Citizenship
PO Box 229 / 2000 Lisims Drive
New Aiyansh, BC V0J 1A0

FAX:
250 633 3049

EMAIL:
cheriem@nisgaa.net

Print out and sign application, scan application (pdf) and documentation (i.e. birth certificate – pdf or jpeg accepted) then attach to email.

Send everything together in one package to the Citizenship Office.

AFTER YOU HAVE SUBMITTED YOUR APPLICATION:

Confirmation of receipt:
Within 2 weeks after the application is received, you will receive a confirmation letter in the mail to confirm the receipt of your complete application. If you have not received a confirmation by then, you may contact us to inquire. If we are unable to confirm receipt, at the discretion of the Citizenship Manager we will ask you to resend.

Corrections or additions:
If you need to correct your completed application form, you may contact us to inquire. Any additional information must include your full name and date of birth of the applicant.
Government of Canada Aboriginal Procurement Strategy

**THE CANADIAN PROCUREMENT STRATEGY** for Aboriginal Businesses is an initiative to augment the Government of Canada’s commitment to increase procurement and participation in major economic opportunities for Aboriginal business. One of the tools that PSAB has developed and maintained is a national business directory available within the Government of Canada.

As an organization for a First Nation community, we would like to invite you to post a link for the Aboriginal Business Directory on your website, as the enterprises of your community can benefit from more visibility within federal and provincial government and the private sector, allowing them to bid on PSAB contract opportunities.

Even better, if you have a list of Aboriginal businesses on your territory, we would appreciate to have a copy so we can contact the businesses directly to invite them to register to the PSAB program.

For more information on PSAB or the ABD, please visit:

PSAB: [www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032802/1100100032803](http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032802/1100100032803)

ABD: [www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033057/1100100033058](http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033057/1100100033058)

Contact PSAB to discuss the importance of the ABD for your community, as well as sharing names of Aboriginal businesses.

Sincerely,

Caroline Gracia
Aboriginal Procurement and Business Partnerships (APBP)
10 Wellington Street / Room 1105
Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0H4
Tel: 1 800 400 7677 / Fax: 819 956 9837
Email: saea-psab@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca
Web: [www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/psab](http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/psab)

Northern Savings Credit Union visits NLG

With the **Nisga’a Landholding Transition Act** now in force, Nisga’a citizens have the option to own their residential property in unrestricted, transferable fee simple. With fee simple ownership, a Nisga’a Citizen, as a property owner can now approach a lending institution for a mortgage without requiring a guarantee from the Nisga’a Nation.

The option is a new approach for both the Nisga’a Nation and for lending institutions, so the basis of the meeting between NLG and NSCU was to discuss public education strategies for aspiring Nisga’a homeowners on the application process for attaining a mortgage, insurance requirements and general financial literacy information.

Northern Savings Credit Union is the second financial institution that has committed to developing a relationship with the Nisga’a Nation under the new **Landholding Transition Act**.

Registrar of Land Titles, Diane Cragg, then provided the Northern Savings representatives with a tour and overview of the operations of the Nisga’a Land Title Office located at Nisga’a Lisims Government in Gitlax’t’aamiks.

Please note: Nisga’a Lisims Government is sharing these materials for information purposes only, and does not endorse any of the products or vendors referenced in these materials. Nisga’a citizens need to carefully consider their own financial circumstances and obtain their own advice in determining their needs regarding home ownership.
Nisg̱a’a Annual Fishing Plan 2015–2016

This Nisg̱a’a Annual Fishing Plan is a legal document as prescribed in the Nisg̱a’a Fisheries and Wildlife Act and in the Nisg̱a’a Fisheries Regulations. The Nisg̱a’a Annual Fishing Plan, like the legislation which prescribes it, has been developed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Nisg̱a’a Final Agreement. Following the general provisions, the Nisg̱a’a Annual Fishing Plan is divided into four parts, dealing with salmon, intertidal bivalves, crabs and oolichan respectively. The plan does not apply to the harvest of wildlife fish.

To view the complete plan, go to the Fisheries Management section of the website: www.nisgaanation.ca/sites/default/files/NAFP2015_16_Exec%2021Jan15%20Final.pdf

Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project update #21


Hobiyee 2015

The Hobiyee committee, the community of Gingolx and our Gingolx Elders gathered the community together for a public meeting at the Long House to discuss the recent deaths in our community. As a result, a motion was passed to reschedule Hobiyee to March 13–14, 2015 in Gingolx.

We would greatly appreciate it if you can contact Arlene Lincoln or the Village Government if your group will still be able to participate in the Hobiyee Celebration on March 13–14, 2015.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
Christine Barton, Chairperson / christine.barton@gingolx.net
Arlene Lincoln, Co-Chairperson / arle_linc@yahoo.ca
Gingolx Village Government / Tel: 250 326 4212
or Toll-Free: 1 800 736 5511

HOBİYE2 NEW DATES:
Fri, March 13, 2015 (all day) to Sat, March 14, 2015 (all day)
Location: Gingolx Memorial Centre

NLG Wills & Estates Project providing Legal Clinics for Gitlaḵ’aamiks & Gitwinksihlkw

Nisg̱a’a Lisims Government’s Wills & Estates Project will provide a legal clinic for the Nisg̱a’a Nation on:

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015
WHERE: Gitlaḵ’aamiks, BC at the Gitlaḵ’aamiks Village Government office

The lawyer will be John Bandstra of the Warner Bandstra Brown law firm located in Terrace, BC.

If you would like further information or to book an appointment, please call, Jean Clayton or her assistant, Charlene Ousey, at 250 633 2715 or via email: jeanc@nisgaaelections.ca
IN TORONTO, THERE ARE four confirmed cases of measles. The case ages range from 14 months old to 39 years old. Three cases were unvaccinated and one case had one dose of the MMR vaccine. The cases are not linked.
(Toronto Public Health Alerts, February 5, 2015)

SYMPTOMS
• Fever, cough, runny nose, and watery inflamed eyes
• In the mouth – small red spots with white or bluish white centres
• Dusky red, blotchy rash that begins on the face and spreads all over the body
• Rash begins on 3rd to 7th day of illness and lasts 4‑7 days

CAUSES
• The measles virus is spread through the air by droplets that have been coughed, sneezed, or breathed by an infected person.
• The measles virus can survive in small droplets in the air for several hours.
• The measles virus is also spread through direct contact with nose and throat secretions of an infected person.

PREVENTION
• Immunization with MMR vaccine is the best way to prevent measles.
• All contacts of a measles case that have not had measles disease or 2 doses of measles vaccine in the past should receive measles vaccine within 72 hours of last exposure to the infected person.
• Immune globulin (a blood product containing measles antibodies) is available to prevent measles disease in people who are exposed to a case of measles but who are unable to be immunized with MMR for any reason.
• Wash hands well, especially after coughing and sneezing and before preparing foods or eating.
• Don’t share food, drinks, utensils, etc.

(BCCDC, Diseases & Conditions, February 5, 2015)

For more information about the benefits of getting the vaccine visit: www.nisgaanation.ca/sites/default/files/MMR%20vaccine%20hfile14a.pdf

LISIMS/Nass Valley RCMP police report

JANUARY 2015 / In the month of January 2015 the LISIMS/Nass Valley RCMP responded to 106 calls for service with 10 prisoners being lodged in Detachment cells.

January 1st was very busy as members responded to several noise complaints and assaults after the New Year’s Eve celebrations came to an end.

There were 6 reports of Motor Vehicle accidents. Please take this as a reminder that with the frequent weather changes driving can be a bit of an adventure. Please allow yourself a little extra time to reach your destination, and make sure your vehicle is properly prepared for winter driving. M+S Winter tires are a requirement until April 1, 2015.

LISIMS/Nass Valley RCMP continue to investigate several serious assaults including sex assaults that took place in the month of January. Charges are being recommended to Crown Counsel. Alcohol continues to play a major part in the majority of the criminal offences reported to the Detachment.

Hobiyee celebrations are fast approaching. Cst. Rosi Komlos, Cst. Tina Kerton (with her spouse) and Cst. Anthony Fletcher will be dancing in the celebrations. Cst. Komlos has asked that we do not video her during the dancing as she is still very shy about her moves!

You will also see extra police throughout, some on duty and some off duty, to assist with keeping the celebrations peaceful and enjoyable for everyone. Don’t hesitate to come up and say hi.

If you have information on a crime or wish to report a crime, please contact the LISIMS/Nass Valley RCMP at 250 633 2222. You can also contact crime stoppers at 1 800 222 TIPS (8477).

Sincerely,
Cpl. Nathan Dame
Operations NCO
Lisims/Nass Valley RCMP
Family Skills Worker

**Position:** Family Skills Worker

**Salary:** Commensurate with Qualifications/Experience

**Supervisor:** Nisg’a’a Child & Family Services Director

**Hours:** 35 hours per week

**Term:** Full Time – Permanent

**Location:** Laxgals’ap BC

**Job Summary:** The Family Support Worker provides a range of supports aimed at promoting the well-being of children, youth and families. Services will include support to families who have experienced child protection interventions.

**Duties:**
- Gathers information relevant to the client by interviewing, observing behavior, meeting with caregivers and service providers by using a variety of inventories, checklists and questionnaires.
- Provides support, guidance and problem-solving to clients to address issues related to family functioning in an individual or group setting using techniques such as active listening, conflict resolution, basic group counseling techniques and psycho-educational group methods to resolve the identified problems, needs, and risks.
- Develop and implement a Family Goal Plan and attend court with clients.
- Liaise with Ministry of Children and Family Workers and other service providers.
- Participate in the development, modification and evaluation of client service plans at integrated case management meetings on a regular basis to report clients’ activities and progress.
- Outline services provided by the program and/or organization. Provides information on and referral to other community service providers, resources and professionals as required.
- Provides parenting and/or life skills building to clients on issues such as parent-child interaction, child development, discipline and guidance, and behavior management.
- Provides emotional support, practice assistance and feedback to clients. May, on occasion, facilitate educational sessions and workshops to clients.
- Maintains client related records and statistics and provides reports to the supervisor.
- Performs other related duties as required.

**Education and Experience:**
- Bachelor of Social Work, Child and Youth Care or a comparable degree is highly preferred; or
- Social Services Diploma with two years extensive experience required.

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**
- Excellent interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills including an ability to communicate complex information to a wide variety of audiences;
- Demonstrated professionalism, judgment, diplomacy, tact, and sound decision making ability;
- Ability to prioritize, organize and manage a workload often including multiple, competing demands;
- Knowledge of the Nisg’a’a language and culture is a definite asset;

**Other:**
The successful candidate will be required to have/complete/provide:

1. A valid BC Drivers’ license with current drivers’ abstract;
2. Three recent work-related references;
3. The successful candidate will be subject to a criminal records check.

Applicants are required to submit a resume with cover letter describing their qualifications and related experience prior to 5 pm on March 12, 2015. We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Please be advised that social media checks are part of the recruitment process.

**All Resume Packages May Be Directed To:**

Nisg’a’a Lisims Government
Attention: Human Resources Department
PO Box 231, Gitlax’t’aamiks BC V0J 1A0
Fax: 250 633 2367
Email: hrdept@nisgaa.net

**Posted:** February 26, 2015

**Closes:** March 12, 2015
AT TAX TIME, IF YOU ARE:

a) a resident on Nisga’a Lands, OR
b) a Nisga’a citizen resident on Nisga’a Lands

☑ TICK YES ON YOUR T1 TAX FORM

If you tick yes on your T1 tax form, the taxes you pay will benefit the Nisga’a Nation and all residents on Nisga’a lands.

Based upon revenue sharing agreements between the Nisga’a Nation, Canada and BC, taxes paid to Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) are returned to the Nisga’a Nation.

The cover page of the T1 General 2014 Tax Form will include two questions where eligible individuals need to tick the box marked “YES” indicating that they are residents on Nisga’a Lands OR are a Nisga’a citizen resident on Nisga’a Lands.

Residency information for tax administration agreements
For more information, see Information Sheet T1-BC10(E), Residency information for tax administration agreements, included in this package.

Did you reside within Nisga’a Lands on December 31, 2014? ................................................ Yes ☑ 1 No 2
If yes, are you a citizen of the Nisga’a Nation? ................................................................. Yes ☑ 1 No 2

Property Tax Assessments / FAQs

Do you have questions about property tax assessments?
Check out our FAQ page to learn more about property tax assessments at the following link: www.nisgaanation.ca/property-tax-assessment-faqs
Summary of Resolutions from NLG Executive Meeting February 18, 2015

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

**Resolution / Adopted Feb 18, 2015**
**Human Resources Director**

MOVED THAT under section 5(2)(q) of the Act the Executive approve the Chief Executive Officer’s appointment of Cheryl Pelletier to the Human Resources Director Position.

**Resolution / Adopted Feb 18, 2015**
**Settlement Trust & Spending Sustainability Report**

MOVED THAT the Executive of Nisga’a Lisims Government accept the Nisga’a Finance Committee’s recommendation that:

1. the annual budget spend rate of the Nisga’a Settlement Trust be reduced to a maximum of 1.8%; and
2. the Spending Sustainability Report be refreshed every 3 years.

**Resolution / Adopted Feb 18, 2015**
**Low Income Grant Program**

MOVED THAT the Nisga’a Lisims Government Executive:

1. endorse the Low Income Grant Program in principle; and
2. authorize the preparation of specific policies, for subsequent approval by the Executive, to enable the Chief Financial Officer to implement the Low Income Grant Program in 2015.

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.

If you have news or a story to tell, please contact Edward Allen by phone or email at: edwarda@nisgaa.net