Gitlax't'aamiks: Capital of the Nisga’a Nation
formerly: New Aiyansh

One of four Nisga’a communities, Gitlax’t’aamiks is located 97 kilometres northwest of Terrace, British Columbia. Home to approximately 1,800 residents, Gitlax’t’aamiks offers rich cultural history, natural beauty, and central location for exploring Nisga’a Lands.

Gitlax’t’aamiks was a large and ancient village on the north bank of the Nass River on the edge of the historic Grease Trail. In 1883, a missionary established a Christian village about six kilometers downriver. There, Nisga’a craftsmen built a large village complete with Victorian style houses, a church, community hall, school, sawmill, and its own printing press. They called this new village Aiyansh (Fertile Valley). After a series of floods, the people of Aiyansh finally moved to higher ground on the other side of the river and established New Aiyansh. It was here-after seeking a settlement for 113 years-Nisga’a negotiators signed British Columbia’s first modern treaty, the Nisga’a Final Agreement.

In the spring of 2010 the village government voted to rename the village of New Aiyansh Gitlax’t’aamiks.

Gitlax’t’aamiks offers an ideal launching point for discovery of Nisga’a Lands and culture. In 1977, the “Unity Pole” was raised here—the first new pole (totem pole) in the Nass Valley in a century. It signaled a rebirth of Nisga’a art, culture, and language, as well as a renewed commitment to securing a fair and equitable treaty. Today, the Nisga’a Final Agreement is secure and signs of renewal reverberate throughout the Nisga’a Lands.

Gitlax’t’aamiks is situated on the edge of Anhluut’ukwsim Laxmihl Angwinga’asanskwhl (Nisga’a Memorial Lava Bed Park), the site of Canada’s last volcanic eruption. Sport fishing, back country recreation, and cultural tours are available (in season). Visitors from around the world come to experience Wilp Si’ayuukhl Nisga’a, the traditional homeland. In the spring of 2010 the village government voted to rename the village of New Aiyansh Gitlax’t’aamiks.

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Annual Village activities
Tour de Nass bike race: May
Walk for Life: June
Aboriginal Day: 21st June
Canoe Races at Lava Lake: July
Canoe Journey: August
The Gitmilidik Hall is open weekly for bingo

Contact Information:
Village Government: (toll free) 1-877-588-2368
Nisga’a Valley Health Authority: 1-888-233-2212
School District #92: 250-633-2228
Mechanic: Diversified Automotive and Towing 250-633-2273
Bed and Breakfast: Sherry’s Valley View Lodge: 250-633-2458
Lorenzo’s Lava Lodge: 250-633-2522
Artists:
Alver Tait, Master Carver: 250-633-2656
Eric Clayton, Carver: 250-633-2097
Warren Tait, Jeweller: 250-633-2073
Store:
Gonu General Store: 250-633-2476
Nass Valley Gifts: 250-633-2522
Recreation Centre Services
Full kitchen
Fitness room
Classes