

Governance (Band) Meeting Update

The first Governance meeting of the recently elected Ditidaht Council was held on November 2, 2019 at the Ditidaht Community Hall in Malachan, Nitinaht Lake. Approximately a dozen members were in attendance to hear the portfolio updates by members of council.

Chief Councilor Brian Tate announced the commitment to hold quarterly Governance meetings, which is outlined in the Ditidaht Governance Manual that was developed during the previous council's term. Access to information and contribution by the Ditidaht membership to our nation's enterprise is encouraged.

An overview of the Ditidaht Governance Manual, which was adopted in January 2018, was provided by the Ditidaht Executive Director, Jeneen Hunt. Also noted was the schedule for the Ditidaht Chief and Council meetings, held on the first and third Monday of each month, and that Council meetings are open to members with the caveat of being asked to leave when confidential matters are to be discussed.

Council member, Paul Sieber, reported that the 2005 Emergency Services Plan for Ditidaht is outdated and ineffective. Funding must be identified in order to provide training. As well, there is a need for volunteers in order to ensure there is human resources to support emergency situations.

Work is in progress to update the Plan, but until then, local response is unstructured with two members responding to emergencies. Paul envisions our nation developing a plan that includes a schedule with trained first responders at the ready. Volunteers are also sought for training and participation in the Ditidaht Volunteer Fire Department.

One of council member Anne Pettet's portfolios is Education, which includes the Ditidaht Community School (DCS) and Asaabuus Daycare. Anne reported that the Ditidaht Community School is an independent, nation-run facility which is currently in an assessment process to update its certification as an independent school. Certification ensures that the children will receive the same quality of education as they would in public schools. Anne is working with the DCS principal and others in the development of Ditidaht language and culture programs. She will be looking for resources to train early childhood education assistants in the school and hopes to bring adult education upgrading opportunities to the community.

Councilor Darryl Tate delivered the housing report, noting preparations for six new social housing rental units are underway and the lots are being prepared for construction. Councilor Tate's report included how the cost of construction and renovation of homes have risen, including the disposal of building materials, as well as the delivery of materials.

Acting Corporal Simon Forshaw from the Lake Cowichan RCMP was invited to discuss services to the Malachan community and area. Concerns were raised that there is not enough police presence in the community, especially on the weekends. The reasons given is that Nitinaht Lake is served by the relatively small detachment whose service area includes Lake Cowichan, Youbou, Nitinaht Lake and points in-between with only two RCMP members on call during most times. Members present raised the question of whether they would be better served by the Port Alberni RCMP detachment, which is bigger. It was noted though that it also provides service to a larger area, including four Nuu-chah-nulth communities and may already be spread too thin, so service wouldn't necessarily be better.

Before the meeting adjourned, elder Christine Edgar thanked Chief Tate for his leadership. She urged him to be strong and to treat the people how he wants to be treated. She asked that Ditidaht stand together to support their leaders.

Ditidaht Development Corp

DDC recently completed a very lucrative logging operation, harvesting less than 10% of the volume on their Doobah 350ha private lands. During this period, we were able to reopen IR #15, formally the sawmill site and utilized it as a logging sort. Employment opportunities during this period included buckers, loader operators, firewood cutters (firewood provided to the elders) and shake and shingle. Sadly, we lost Josh Edgar, one of our cutters at the Sort site.

The profit generated has been banked and plans for reinvestment will be determined by the Board and Council in discussions with membership. Furthering the resource opportunities, as per the Community Plan is priority.

In March of 2019, BC Hydro temporary suspended the Standing Offer Program leaving all Participants in debt for costs incurred. Ditidaht was deep into this project when the power supply program was suspended and is now negotiating with the government for compensation for losses incurred. These talks include an alternate power supply for the Nitinaht Community.

DDC has completely re-designed its web site at <https://westcoasttrail.com/>, keeping up with the times and requirements for booking its tents and cabins at Tsuquadrah. We now have a Ditidaht Guardian designated specifically to that site and its guests. Bookings have already begun and are coming in steady.

Interviews for a new Ditidaht Nation Visitors' Centre Manager took place January 14th. The position will oversee the Motel, Store, Nitinaht Campsites and Park Orientation.

The new Caycuse River Campground is open for business. Partially opened last summer the campsite will see new trails, new washrooms, showers, power and premium sites. Partial funding was supplied by WorkBC and the Island Coastal Economic Trust. The 1.2-million-dollar project will be completed March 20th, 2020.

The mandate of the DDC continues to be one of progress that creates employment. Last summer April through September saw 42 jobs created.

Submitted by Bryan Cofsky

Picture:
New part
of the
Ditidaht
Camp
Site.



Elders Coordinator Update

Hello everyone. My role as Elders Coordinator is to organize bi-weekly luncheons for our elders in Malachan, Nitinaht Lake, and to organize travel arrangements to events of interest for the Ditidaht elders.

So far, the Ditidaht elders chose to attend the Tribal Journeys in Lummi, Washington this past July (24th to 28th) in lieu of the Annual Elder's Conference for 2019. As well, they attended two separate events in Port Alberni this past October. The Nuu-chah-nulth Disability Fair and the Island Elders Luncheon at the Hupacasath House of Gathering.

In order to attend functions, such as luncheons, we must fundraise. The first fundraiser was held in October for a cedar hat. We raised \$1000.00! We've just held a Loonie-Toonie fundraiser in Malachan on January 17, 2020 and raised \$290.00, plus a catering event of \$250! The next luncheon outing will be to Nanoose this coming March.

If any of our elders who live in urban or other communities outside of Malachan, Nitinaht Lake, and would like to join us for any trips or luncheons, please feel free to contact me at the Ditidaht Community Services office by calling 1-888-454-0022, or via e-mail at elderscoordinator@ditidaht.ca. My hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Wednesday. Please leave your contact information with the receptionist if you call while I am out of the office so I may return your call.

Sincerely,

Kelita Sieber,

Ditidaht Elders Coordinator



JOB POSTING

ROLE TITLE: Marine Safety and Response Coordinator-Training Position
DEPARTMENT: Administration
REPORTING TO: Ditidaht Executive Director
LOCATION: Ditidaht Administration Office

JOB SUMMARY

Reporting to the DFN Administrator, the DFN Marine Safety and Response Manager directs, coordinates, implements and evaluates all program and activities in relation to developing a Ditidaht First Nation- Marine Safety and Response Plan with the Canadian Coast Guard.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The DFN Marine Safety and Response Coordinator oversees and carries out program development, work planning, consultations and negotiation of the Co-Development of Community Response Agreement and liaison with the Canadian Coast Guard. Work with the DFN Natural Resource Manager and Fisheries Manager in developing the Marine Safety and Response Plan. Engage the Ditidaht Membership in community engagement meetings.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work well within a team
- Able to work well and respectfully with community members, maintaining confidentiality as appropriate
- Self-motivated and able to work independently and as part of a team
- Able to maintain confidentiality
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Able to handle conflict with sound judgement

SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS: (may be enhanced with training on the job)

- High School Diploma or Equivalent Certificate
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Public speaking and facilitation skills
- Well-organized and makes good use of systems to track tasks, schedules, etc.
- Ability to assist in proactively identifying and serving the communications needs of the DFN and Communities
- Strong planning, critical thinking and analytical skills and ability to find creative solutions to problems and project delivery requirements
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Word. Familiarity with Excel, PowerPoint, and Publisher are assets, or willingness to learn
- Ability to maintain good office systems, including electronic file management and use of online systems such as DropBox
- Current BC Driver's License (or willingness to obtain one). Vehicle an asset

LOGISTICS and PROCEDURES

Hours of Work: 8:30 – 4:30 Monday to Friday (or as agreed upon with DFN Administrator)

Note: Some communications activities such as conferences, meetings etc. may require individuals to have a willingness and ability to work variable hours, including weekends and evenings

Please submit your resume and cover letter to Jeneen Hunt, Administrator

Fax Number: 250-745-3332

Email: jhunt@ditidaht.ca

Deadline: February 7, 2020

Only those shortlisted for an interview will be contacted.



Meet the managers!

Please join us for updates from the Ditidaht Managers on areas that each department has been working on, both in relation to strategic areas in the Comprehensive Community Plan, as well as program operations.

There will also be an update on the Community Learning Strategy and its main directions.

After the updates, you will have an opportunity to meet with the Managers individually if you have any questions, as well as members of the Ditidaht Council and Executive Director.

For more information please contact Shelley Chester.

PHONE: 250-755-7824
(or toll-free at 1-800-997-3799)

WEBSITE: www.ditidaht.ca

EMAIL: dtdots@shaw.ca

Please join us for an update on the Ditidaht **Comprehensive Community Plan** and the Ditidaht **Community Learning Strategy.**

February 2020

Friday, February 21st – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Ditidaht Community Hall, **Nitinaht Lake**
Lunch will be served

Saturday, February 22nd – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Barclay Hotel, 4277 Stamp Ave., **Port Alberni**
Lunch will be served

Sunday, February 23rd – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Room 2/3, Beban Park (2300 Bowen Rd.) **Nanaimo**
Lunch will be served

***Please note the Ditidaht Membership IRA Clerk will
be at the Port Alberni and Nanaimo sessions in the
event you need to update your Indian Status Card.***

Ditidaht First Nation

PO Box. 340
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 7M8
Phone: 250-745-3333



Ditidaht
FIRST NATION

We are on the
Web!
www.nitinaht.com

Did you Know?

Community Member's Safety is Paramount:

Family and colleagues worry when community members can't be contacted due to road conditions and outages, so please let Laura Peltier know when the hydro or phones are down, or when the road is flooded, and Laura will post to social media to keep everyone informed. Laura will post ASAP on the official Ditidaht First Nation page as she is made aware.

Laura maybe contacted at 250-588-2951 for texting, lbedgar@telus.net for email, or on Facebook.

Anyone can report up to date information about these matters to Laura, to ensure the rest of the membership is kept informed.

Sharing information is caring for your community and family members.

REMINDERS:

Address updates:

Please ensure all your contact information is up to date by sending it to Karen Mack, Ditidaht Membership Clerk/IRA at 1-888-745-3366, ext. 225 or by e-mail to adminassistant@ditidaht.ca, and to Shelley Chester, Ditidaht Treaty Coordinator at 250-755-7824 or by e-mail to dtdots@shaw.ca.

Keeping your contact information current also ensures important information is delivered in a timely manner.



GET IN TOUCH

Important Contacts

Executive Director: Jeneen Hunt (executivedirector@ditidaht.ca)

Executive Assistant: Karen Mack (adminassistant@ditidaht.ca)

Chief Treaty Negotiator: G. Jack Thompson (jthompson@ditidaht.ca)

Housing Manager: Chris Barker (chris_barker_87@hotmail.com)

NRO Manager: Paul Sieber (psieber@ditidaht.ca)

Fisheries Manager: Darryl Tate (dtate@ditidaht.ca)

Ditidaht Community School Principal: Emily MacLennan (maclennane@ditidahtschool.ca)

Community Services Manager: 1-888-454-0022 (local 250-745-3331)

Asaabus Daycare Manager: Crystal Amos (ditidahtdc@hotmail.ca)
