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Kwakwaka'wakw Collection from the National Museum of the American Indian that was prepared by Jay Stewart. Thank you Jay. We invite our members to come in to see this collection of photos as well. We had Irma Verhoeven and one of her staff members here conducting research. They are both from the Netherlands. I asked Irma to prepare a proposal for visiting school groups, as teaching is her professional background. I will present this proposal to the Board for their review and hopefully we can implement it for the next school year. Some staff training will be necessary if we begin this program. Following the Board's review I will then give you an update about the school program. Pam Trautman from Olympia, Washington, is another researcher and many of you will remember her from other visits. Pam has been working on *The Book of U'mista* and she is also conducting research on trade beads. Pam will be back again in August if anyone is interested in talking to her about her projects. Sharon Grainger, who you all know as the photographer was back for a week with Pamela Pakker-Koziki. They are still collecting material for a book we are preparing about the *Elders and Their Working Hands*. Sharon continues to shoot some amazing photography of the Elders and Pamela continues to capture their stories on tape. We are expecting two students from Finland this summer to come and do some marine research and research on climate change. They are thinking that they will focus on red tide and the effects of it and also on killer whales.

The benefit for us is all the information, stories and photos that we will get and that will become part of the U'mista's collections. This becomes part of our invaluable resources that in most cases we could not afford to do by ourselves. So, we continue to look at partnerships to help us achieve our own goals and help others to reach theirs.

Prior to going on to Europe I stopped in Winnipeg to attend the Canadian Museum Conference. This was my first Museum conference. I met a lot of interesting people, attended a number of workshops and listened to a number of keynote speakers. A Pre-Conference workshop that I attended was Museums Heritage and First Peoples - on going dialogue - What Next? I was immediately involved as facilitator for one on the group discussion sessions and our topic was repatriation. This workshop was a result of recommendations of a 1992 task force on issues of ownership, access and control of First Nations objects and our responsibilities as cultural trustees of these objects and what the next step is to implement the recommendations. My reaction to the whole workshop was why are we still addressing this issue 10 years later. We as First Nations people must become more involved in such issues and accept responsibility for sitting at the tables where decisions about our culture are being made. Our communities' voices need to be heard and we as trustees must recognize the views and respect all the discussions about our culture from within our memberships as this is the basis on which policy must be developed. We encourage everyone to come in to discuss any cultural or historical matter important to you that you feel

we can help with. We may not be able to resolve everything but we might be able to research the issue and get a bit closer to an answer or resolution for you. Your Board of Directors meets quarterly to discuss issues important to you. Other areas of interest that were discussed were matters about succession and of course the never-ending search for support for culture including funding from all levels of government, and this should include our own local governments as well. As for succession, who will take over after we retire? Are we preparing the youth for this? Are we providing them with the right tools to carry on? Here at the U'mista we encourage youth to consider a future in cultural and museum work and try to provide training programs to get them started. Our Collections Management training program resumes again August 1st with the trainees Esther Alfred and Terri Bruce gaining more experience. Thank you to the North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society for providing the funding for this very important project.

We were awarded a grant from the BC Digitization program through the BC Museums Association. This allowed us to digitize ninety hours of our video collection and forty hours of our audio collection to insure the stability of this information. It became evident that our audio and video collection was at risk of deterioration in its present state and that to digitize it would insure this did not happen. Lou-ann Neel is coordinating this project for us. She is also conducting an Artists' Workshop on July 12 and July 13 here at the U'mista where the artists will get an introduc-

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tion to the use of computer technology and digitization. We should be getting the full outline of the workshop very soon and will post the details in the community.

As always, our kwakwala research and material development continues. The community kwakwala classes continue and the Elders kwakwala word verification program continues. We are waiting for word about two kwakwala language proposals we have submitted and hopefully can just carry on with all the activity as we gather as much information about kwakwala as is possible. Our researcher, Guy Buchholtzer is compiling as much information as possible to add to our growing database of words and Lorraine Hunt is transcribing all the words into U'mista's orthography after verification by the fluent kwakwala speakers. Words and phrases are added to our database daily. The reaction to our rewritten Anglican hymnal to include the U'mista orthography along with "old" kwakwala and English is very positive with many requests for copies being received. We have established a partnership with Simon Fraser University and their Continuing Studies department where Guy Buchholtzer will have an office as Writer in Residence in their downtown Vancouver campus. This is where Guy will continue with his research for the Kwakwaka'wakw Centre for Language in Community Centre (KCLCC) project. The KCLCC will eventually be housed in the remodeled 'Namgis House when enough funds are raised for our capital campaign to complete that project. For more information

please check the website www.groups.msn.com/NamgisHouse The Steering Committee for the 'Namgis House project meet again July 3rd and July 4th when we begin to plan the fundraising campaign.

Another partnership that is evolving is one with Nimmo Bay Resort. We have developed both a one-day tour package and a four-day tour package where guests get the opportunity to visit the U'mista, hear our stories about our culture, participate in the dance presentations and visit a small part of our territories. A FAM Tour was conducted June 28 where we had a number of media people take part in the four-day package. We even arranged for the sun to shine brightly that day for them to receive the true picture of our life style. The raves about the U'mista and the guided tour, the dancing and the food were great. Days and days went in to the planning of this FAM Tour and as we work towards helping interested people get in to the tourism industry we feel a responsibility to help them get the right information and proper training for their programs.

All the pieces returned from the National Museum of the American Indian in New York have now been entered into our Collection database. We now have to plan on finding the money to have the exhibit mounts made, how and where to exhibit them and how to fit them into our Potlatch Collection. The Board has started to discuss this project and we will soon make a decision on how this will all be done. I am hoping that the decision will be available before our Collections Manager; Juanita Pasco

leaves at the end of August.....or she just cannot leave. Juanita is making a big change in her life. She is moving away from the community to start another phase of her life in Fernie where her husband, Kevin has taken a position as x-ray technician. We wish Juanita the best and we will miss her around here, especially when we are looking for something or wanting something special done on the computer.

With Juanita making the decision to move on, the Board felt that this is an opportune time to re-evaluate the U'mista programs, policies, financial position and staffing situation. We have asked Cheryl Brooks of Cheryl Brooks Consulting Company to undertake this job for us. It is interesting to note that when I first began to talk with Cheryl, I did not know that she has already been involved with the U'mista many years ago. So, it will be interesting to have her undertake this evaluation for us and see what her recommendations will be. We will give you a full report when Cheryl has completed the project.

We would like to thank some of our volunteers we have been working with, Rod Alfred Sr., Joanne Rufus, Vera Newman, Stephen Bruce Sr., Aaron Glass, Richard Sanborn and as always our Elders for giving of their time and knowledge. We also thank Jay Stewart, of Victoria, BC and Phyllis Leach of Oshkosh, Wisconsin for their generous donations to U'mista. Both of these donations are directed to our growing endowment fund and we thank them very much for their on going support. Thank you also to Maureen Mason of Leominster, Massachusetts for her generous dona-

Special Projects**Coordinator Report***Continued from page 20*

tion in recognition of the publishing of our Anglican hymnal. We also thank Dick Carson, Mavis Gillie and the Aboriginal Neighbors of Victoria, BC for their continuing help and support in the repatriation of our Sun Transformation mask from the British Museum. *Gilakas'la* to all of you and to those we may have unintentionally missed.

Watch for details of our Annual General Meeting that we plan to have in August. We will post notices in plenty of time. In the meantime, have an enjoyable summer. Come and visit us.

Aboriginal Tourism*Continued from page 8*

and romantic novelists.

It would be a great cultural experience, if a native tourism trainee would come along as a guide on the entire trip to tell the stories of their culture, while at the same time developing some more insight in the level of knowledge of the European consumer. They might not be the storytellers of the older generation, but as young people, they are like a 'treasure box' to

Chairman's Report*Continued from page 2*

computer and access to the Internet.

At the core of the First Voices web applications is the language archiving tool. In the archiving tool, each language collection consists of an alphabet dictionary and phrase book. The alphabet provides the written character set for a language, with sound files for each character. The dictionary provides a word list, with translations, definitions, sounds, images and video. The phrase book contains every day conversational language with related text, sound, image and video files to support language learning. Through resources provided by Heritage Canada we will be archiving lan-

their tradition, and living evidence of the strength and continuity of old but surviving cultures. This is of great value for the travellers, art collectors etc; not only to do they see the treasures of the past in a museum, but they will also discover the ongoing elements of the same culture in these new generations. As a young staff member of the Walas International Companies, I hope to get the

guages in BC later this year - Kwakwala is included in this first stage. First Voices project represents an excellent opportunity for governments, corporations, senior educational institutes and NEO's to combine their resources in an outstanding educational vehicle designed to reverse the loss of Aboriginal languages and cultures. There is strong interest and support from American and Australian Aboriginal organizations.

In closing, this is probably the last newsletter with our Collections Manager, Juanita Pasco. *Gilakas'la* on behalf of all our members and supporters for all her years of dedication to the U'mista. We wish her all the best as she travels this next part of her journey. *Halakasla* Juanita!

Yu'am

opportunity to experience the result of what we are trying to establish in cooperation with U'mista and others. For now, I am grateful for the hospitality and knowledge that the people of Alert Bay shared with us.

U'mista Cultural Society

Canadian/International Membership Form

Do you have Band Membership or can you trace ancestry to a Band member of Kwakwaka'wakw? Yes / No

If yes, give Band Name and Number: (**If Band Number completed, G.S.T. is not applicable**)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Canadian Annual Fee: \$ 15.00 (Add \$1.05 G.S.T. if applicable) International Annual Fee: \$ 26.75 (GST included)
(Payable in Canadian Funds, Visa, Mastercard or Money Order to the U'mista Cultural Centre)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Province: _____
 Country: _____ Postal Code: _____
 Res Phone: _____ Bus. Phone: _____

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Canadian Annual Fee: \$25.00 (Add \$ 1.75 G.S.T. if applicable) International Annual Fee: \$37.45 (GST included)
May include up to two adults and children up to 19 years of age.
(Payable in Canadian Funds, Visa, Mastercard or Money Order to the U'mista Cultural Centre)

Name: (Adult #1) _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 City: _____ Province: _____
 Country: _____ Postal Code: _____
 Res Phone: _____ Bus. Phone: _____

Name (Adult #2): _____

Children Names: Birthdate (YY/MM/DD)

Name: _____	D.O.B. _____ / _____ / _____
Name: _____	D.O.B. _____ / _____ / _____
Name: _____	D.O.B. _____ / _____ / _____
Name: _____	D.O.B. _____ / _____ / _____
Name: _____	D.O.B. _____ / _____ / _____

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