



Tsitsak'alam

Please remember: fires are not allowed in front of U'mista Cultural Centre at any time. There is signage to indicate fire boundaries. We have beautiful beach access between the U'mista and the breakwater. Please use that area and help to protect our Box of Treasures for future generations.
Gilakas'la



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Andrea Sanborn, Executive Director

Notes from the Executive Director's desk:

Well, we have had a pretty good winter so far. Sure we had some snow. We needed it to show some of our kids who have not seen it before. Thank goodness it did not last long on our island. Sorry but we cannot say the same for others elsewhere in the province. These past couple of weeks have been so great, too bad we couldn't can it and send it to our friends around the world. Alert Bay, what a beautiful place to be living.

U'mista finished up 2008 with a great increase in visitors and we are hoping we see a similar increase for 2009. It is nice to know many people are choosing to come to visit our island with their friends and family. We have a friendly staff, including our summer student Stephen Bruce Jr., to welcome them, talk to them and make their experience a positive one. The same staff will be here for the 2009 season and we are hoping to add an additional staff person to our roster. Sara Peterson has been participating in on-the-job training for the work experience required for her school studies. She has been very busy on Saturdays learning different things, SHREDDING lots of paper, learning how to

operate the cash till, small research projects, keeping the premises tidy, greeting visitors and writing an article for this newsletter. We feel she has come a long way to understand how our place of work operates, why we do things the way we do and how important our membership and visitors are to us.

True to our mandate to *"promote and foster carving, dancing, ceremonies and other cultural/artistic activities engaged in by the Kwakwaka'wakw"*, we have been busy packing up carvings from



Marcus Alfred tying cedar bark

our artists to ship to Liverpool in the UK and to Switzerland. The creations are to become parts of the Collections in museums overseas. It is great to know our artists' talents are appreciated enough to become part of these exhibits in far away places. Some of these "new" pieces will sit beside ancestors' creations



Maxine Matilpi, creating a dance apron

collected many, many years ago for these museums. We all know how great the work of our artists is. We all know that some of the current generation has learned from mentors/



Bent wood box:
Bruce Alfred, 'N̓amgis

teachers like

Doug Cranmer who in turn learned from Mungo Martin. Other artist-mentors were the Chiefs Bob Harris, Herbert Johnson, Willie Seaweed, Henry Speck and Charlie G. George. Now some of them are passing on those lessons today include Bruce Alfred, Wayne Alfred, Beau Dick and William Wasden Jr. It is a special gift we have in our community having such a wealth of talent within our artists' circle that is passed on in mentorship. This art form will be with us for years to come as this circle continues to grow.



In October, I attended the Ecotourism & Sustainable Tourism Conference 2008 in Vancouver. Unfortunately I was not able to attend the opening ceremony when the Kwakwaka'wakw dance group performed. As always, I heard they were awesome. The conference was well worth attending. The

province has identified four key areas they will focus on, *Development and Investment, Access and Infrastructure, Tourism Workforce and Marketing and Promotion*. One of the Top 8 Actions they have included is *Increasing First Nation investments in the tourism and outdoor recreation sectors and marketing those businesses to the world*. So, we will be following this plan and look for progress in partnership with the industry.

I also attended the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) steering committee meeting on this same trip taking advantage of available resources for travel. The RRN meetings are naturally very interest-



ing as we move towards the launch date for this project. It is getting more and more exciting as we move forward to launch date. An exciting development in the RRN project is we hired two Community Liaison persons to coordinate community meetings to help people understand the RRN and how to use it for their own individual or community research projects. The two people hired are Percy Williams from the Kwikwasutinuxw and Herman Bruce Jr. from the Mamalilikala First Nations. They have already traveled to Vancouver for some training for their positions. We are happy to have them on board. They will be calling your community offices to arrange the best time to visit to present a workshop about the RRN. See Percy and Herman's articles on page 11 and 12 titled Culture and Research. *Continue to page 4*

In December, Simon Fraser University in-

vited me to attend the *West Beyond the West:BC Digitization Symposium 2008 Conference*. This was a very interesting conference bringing people together from across the province to discuss what is happening to support digitization of heritage and educational materials, what digitization strategies and priorities are emerging and how we can collectively support and coordinate efforts needed to take digitization activities to the next level. It seems digitization projects are moving so fast. With our tech savvy generation coming along as quickly, we must provide the opportunities to include them in this development to ensure we are properly charting the course for future success in the *knowledge economy*. Find out more, go to



Story of the Ghosts Exhibit,
Marianne Nicholson

West Beyond the West:

BC Digitization Symposium 2008

<http://symposium.westbeyondthewest.ca/welcome.php>

Also in December, I was delighted to attend a dinner hosted by Mr. Michael Audain to honor the work artist Marianne Nicholson is doing. Marianne is Dzawada'enuxw from Ukwa'nlis or Kingcome Inlet. Mr. Audain made special reference to her part of the exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery *The House of Ghosts* where the exterior Georgia Street side of the Gallery was transformed with lights to a Big House front for three months from dusk to dawn. It was very impressive for those of you who did not have the chance to see it. The *"building itself becomes a site of cultural exchange, empha-*

sizing its importance as a transformative space while wryly commenting on its historic role as a courthouse and jail where, decades ago, First Nations peoples were punished for defying the government's Potlatch ban. Nicholson sees this work as a positive and symbolic reassertion of a culture in a place where it was once forbidden, in a gesture that speaks to the vibrancy of Kwakwaka'wakw culture and the need to sustain it."

Following all the Christmas activity around the U'mista we thought we would be able to look forward to some quiet time around here before the next groups arrived. Well, that was short lived. The First Nations Study Class from Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo, is here as I write this article. They are followed next week by visits from

continue to pg 5

the Adventure Tourism Program, North Island College, Campbell River and Tourism Studies, Capilano University, Vancouver. We consider this type of group as one we would like to increase in visitations, the educational school groups. These are eager and young students wanting to soak up all the information they can about us and in turn become wonderful ambassadors for U'mista Cultural Centre.

This week we are hosting the First Nations Language 141K Program, the introduction to the Wakashan language, an accredited course at the University of British Columbia under the direction and instruction of Dr. Patricia A. Shaw. This is a three credit course at completion and is also being held in Vancouver with Chief Robert Joseph assisting as fluent Kwak'wala speaker resource person. Here at U'mista, the group students are, Trish Rosborough, Liz Cad-

wallader of Donna Cranmer, Trevor Isaac, Kathy Hunt, Karajan Willie, Mike Willie, Herman Bruce Jr., Percy Williams and Pewi Alfred with Beverly Lagis being the fluent Kwak'wala speaker resource person. This is a very committed group of learners and they have done great this week, very eager to learn all they can about kwak'wala. With a group like this, we can come to believe the future of the kwak'wala language can be maintained and preserved from extinction as many are predicting. We thank Dr. Shaw for bringing this course to us and dedicating her time and thank you to the students for making the commitment to attend and complete the course.

On February 26th at 7pm, William Wasden Jr. will present *Legend of the Hamat'sa* and on Mar 12th at 7 pm he will present *The Origin of Coppers Amongst the Kwakwaka'wakw*. Come and join us for these presentations.



Back: Pewi, Herman, Percy, Liz, Donna, Dr. Shaw, Trevor
Front: Karajan, Kathy and Beverley Lagis

Kwak'wala Language Class



Dr. Patricia A. Shaw of University of British Columbia addressing Kwak'wala class in U'mista Video Gallery

“Language is the basis of our cultural identity” Andrea Sanborn said in the fall 2008 newsletter, when she announced plans for these classes. Now Dr. Patricia Shaw of the University of British Columbia is at U'mista teaching a first-year university Kwak'wala language course in collaboration with Beverly Lagis from Gwa'yi. The opportunity to study Kwak'wala has drawn students from far and wide! People currently living in Victoria, Fort Rupert, Kingcome Inlet, and Alert Bay have all come together through this course to learn literacy skills and to make progress in understanding and speaking Kwak'wala. The course is intense, packing a full university-level term of work into 2 weekends – one in January and one in March – as well as a week-long series of classes in February for 6 hours a day.

Back at UBC in Vancouver, another group of Kwakwaka'wakw students – from Alert Bay, Quatsino, Cape Mudge, Kingcome Inlet, and places in between – are also enthusiastically learning Kwak'wala. Their Chief Bobby Joseph is

working with Dr. Patricia Shaw in helping the students learn how to get their tongues around the 42 distinct consonants of Kwak'wala (did you know Kwak'wala has 26 sounds that aren't in English!), and to understand the beautifully complex ways of how words and sentences are put together in Kwak'wala.

Students in both these classes are not only being taught the basics of the language, but they are also learning research skills for documentation, analysis, and archiving, so that each of them can contribute to the preservation and revitalization of Kwak'wala. They are developing skills in elicitation and transcription, digital recording and sound editing techniques, as well as acquiring knowledge about dialect diversity, language change over time, bilingual language use, and linguistic analysis.

It was over a century ago, in 1888, that Franz Boas met George Hunt, and taught him how to transcribe Kwak'wala. Hunt went on to document tens of thousands of pages of Kwak'wala – an extraordinary contribution to future generations and an enduring testimony of the uniqueness and richness of Kwakwaka'wakw language and culture. Eager to take advantage of the latest technology that could help him in his efforts, Hunt got his first Gramophone to record language in 1900! Now over a hundred years later, the Kwakwaka'wakw students in these two UBC classes are – like George Hunt – learning how to transcribe and analyze Kwak'wala, in order to ensure the survival of that precious linguistic and cultural heritage. The current “latest” technology – iPods, CDs, and other multimedia materials – will certainly be helpful learning aids, but the biggest contribution will come through the active support of others in their families and their communities.

Give your encouragement of their efforts and commitment!

Dr Pat Shaw Website: <http://fnlg.arts.ubc.ca>

Culture and Community



We are happy to say that we have learned much from the community about the connection between health and culture. We think peoples' voices in our study have a significant im-

act on the health of everyone. We have shared our progress at the CU Expo, University of Victoria, April 2008, and our community forum, November 2008, T'hisalagi'lakw school was well attended. Most recently, we presented our findings to the Health Board on February 2, 2009 and we are exploring ways to work together continue to enhance the connection between culture and health.

Our Next Step is to produce a short, action packed DVD with a variety of people willing to share their words and images about "Health and Culture" in their community. We will include quotes that were shared during our first year of research. We are planning to have the DVD edited and available for viewing soon. Our research team: Vera Newman, Helen Brown, Barb Cranmer, Trevor Isaac and Kali Sedgemore would like to say a big Gilakas'la to everyone who shared their views.

Written by Trevor Isaac

Youth Research Assistant



Marie Hunt, Corrine Child, Ali Hunt and Caleb Child, Kwagu't of Tsaxiis

We were delighted to see our Kwagu't visitors from Tsaxiis, Fort Rupert last month, here to gather research materials stored at the U'mista. History for all tribes of the Kwakwaka'wakw are stored here and we encourage all of you to visit us to access this information. We recommend that you call us first to arrange a time as these records are kept secure and we will ensure that staff is available for you.

The U'mista has amassed a lot of information since it first opened its doors in 1980. This information is accessible to the Kwakwaka'wakw, examples being genealogy, photographs, slides, music, videos and CD's. We encourage all Kwakwaka'wakw to come in and research or provide information pertaining to your heritage.

Prior arrangement must be made to access any of this information by contacting U'mista @ 250-974-5403 or email info@umista.ca.



U'MISTA CULTURAL SOCIETY
ALERT BAY, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



VANCOUVER
FOUNDATION

Culture and Community:

Lawrence Ambers Memorial Scholarship

(LAMS) Fund was established in 2005 by a volunteer committee who developed a criteria for eligibility, maintains the recipient list and advises the community of the awards. The committee also established the fundraising raffle which is directed through the U'mista Cultural Centre.

Details of each raffle, date, item are announced through U'mista and usually are coordinated with major community events such as the annual Alert Bay Sea & Music Festival and the annual Christmas Craft Bazaar (both events listed on back page of this newsletter). For more information please call the U'mista 250-974-5403

Criteria for eligibility: applicants must

- Maintain a Grade Point Average of 3.0
- Have volunteer experience in the North Island and write a 300 word essay on goals and benefits of volunteering in your community.
- Be a student with immediate family history in Alert Bay and attending a post secondary educational institution

Awards will be based on Alert Bay history, the merits of grades, volunteer record and a written essay. Recipients are eligible to re-apply in subsequent years and all criteria must be met.

All applications will be evaluated for completeness and eligibility.

Applications to the scholarship fund can be mailed to U'mista Cultural Centre at:

PO Box 253

Alert Bay, BC, V0N 1A0

Or drop off at the Centre, #1 Front Street

Committee members:

Susan Souch	Margaret Harvey
Kathy Whenham	George Speck
Patsy Cook	Andrea Sanborn

Deadline for applications: May 22, 2009

prior to graduation. This allows time for the committee to receive, review and determine students qualifications for criteria and award the scholarships.

Scholarship recipients to date:

Megan Isaac, Deanna Lansdowne, Cindy Wong Cody Merriman, Carlene Gullstrom, and Helen-Anne Beans.

Valentine's Day Fundraiser:

Thank you to all who helped raise \$500.00 at the 2009 Valentine's Day Dinner at the Nimpkish Hotel. Thank you to the staff and management at the Nimpkish.



Lawrence Ambers

Gwa'sala - 'Nakwaxda'xw



Gilakas'la, Waxawidixtlan. I was very honoured to be invited by Chief Helagal^{is} Spruce Wamiss to the Memorial Potlatch hosted by Di'tsas^u Violet Walkus. I wanted to write and thank the Gwa'sala - 'Nakwaxda'xw Nations for helping host such an uplifting, heartfelt and what I believe is a traditional Potlatch. It was amazing to see the people come together and make it a memorable event for Violet and all in attendance. For me, I felt the most important thing that I witnessed and took home was the spirit of giving that went on throughout the evening. I saw so many people of all ages giving of themselves to ensure that the hosting was done with pride and unity. The Potlatch was a memorial for many past members of the Walkus Family and I can only imagine the joy and fulfillment that the hosts must have had when the evening was complete. Violet also did her dance and many of us who follow the culture know how beautiful a dancer she is. I was trying to think of words to describe the energy and discipline that she carries when she dances but words could not de-

scribe it accurately. It was said that it was her "last dance" and that she was going to retire. I hope that she will find the strength and courage to continue as many of us who in the past, have admired and learned from her; couldn't imagine our Potlatches without her powerful presence and spirit through her dance. I just wanted to say to Violet, "May our Creator continue to guide and bless you, and please continue to carry on inspiring our Nations". It was a very spiritual night and I felt a strong sense of family and oneness. When I finally retired for the night and went home with my billets, we reminisced and talked about how much medicine we all received through the great event. So I wanted to write a bit about a really moving Potlatch that I will always remember and the lady who hosted it. The Potlatch has made me believe more in our culture and the power that we can share when we do things from the heart and give of ourselves.

William Wasden Jr

Two presentations by William Wasden Jr

- Legend of the Hamat'sa

Feb 26th 2009, 7:00-9:00pm

(at time of this newsletter mailing)

Invitation to attend:

- The Origin of Coppers Amongst the Kwakwaka'wakw

March 12th 2009, 7:00m 9:00pm

Culture and Research



Hi, I'm Percy Williams; I grew up in Gwa'yasdəm's, unless I was out for school, work or travel. My life track has been amazing, challenging, and overall worth it thanks to our ancestors, our history, our culture, our "ways". We the Kwakwaka'wakw are amazing, powerful, noble people and that our Potlatch is our governing system, and foundation of our society. I do my best to learn and live in our Kwakwaka'wakw teachings.

I began working at the U'mista Cultural Centre in mid-January. The efforts of all are supportive and empowering as we continue to "be who we are". This continuous growth of modern-science mixed with traditional-science [Potlatch system] as we work with Elders, Historians, Artists, Youth, all Kwakwaka'wakw to ensure we do our best in today's world.

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My position as Cultural Liaison Researcher along with Herman Bruce Jr is to support & help build upon current research programs through the Reciprocal Research Network [RRN] on the Internet, with the participation of the Kwakwaka'wakw.

Since the beginning of this program, I've found the following to be very helpful:

- Acknowledge the Kwakwaka'wakw
- Acknowledge our cultural & spiritual links
- Learn and practice protocol with each Tribal community
- Learn & preserve our Kwak'wala language
- Acknowledge Kwakwaka'wakw sensitivities
- Key support: Andrea Sanborn, U'mista staff, as well as RRN contacts Ryan & Nicholas for research, procedure, language, history
- Be accountable & open to all feedback

- Bridge evidence of history to today's world
- Connect, network & build relationships with all Kwakwaka'wakw
- Ensure promotion, protection & conservation of research records to understand & respect our rights and responsibilities

Percy Williams,

Community Liaison Researcher (CLR)



RRN co-developers:



Sto:lo First Nation



Sto:lo Tribal Council



Musqueam First Nation

MUSEUM of
Anthropology
at the University of
British Columbia



U'MISTA CULTURAL SOCIETY
ALERT BAY, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



Hello my name is Herman Price Bruce Jr. I am excited to be the 2009 Community Liaison Researcher (CLR), for U'mista Cultural Centre (UCC), and the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) in partnership

with the University Of British Columbia (UBC)/ Museum of Anthropology (MOA) the Sto:lo First Nation and Tribal Council and the Musqueam First Nation.

My responsibility here at U'mista is to collaborate with these entities to authenticate artwork, as well as the written and oral language of the Kwakwaka'wakw. We will also be going into the local community to interview people and see first hand the people and find and to find information available to us, to authenticate this information before we can post it on (RRN) web site.

The (RRN) web site will be used for all people involved in collaborating with others to accurately document and share information of the Kwakwaka'wakw Nation. I am really excited to be involved with such an important task, since I am part of the Kwakwaka'wakw through my matrilineal side is Mamalilikala, and my patrilineal side is Ma'amtigila.

Technology today allows us to explore new and exciting avenues; a click of the mouse and a world of information can be in your view.

Are you interested in culture and language of your people? Do you like to make sure that written language and culture is correct and properly expressed? Then you might like to learn about the reciprocal research network (RRN).

My co-worker, Percy Williams and I are responsible for getting people in the community to become familiar with the (RRN) web site and invite anyone with knowledge of our language as well as our culture and art.

If you are Kwakwaka'wakw we would be pleased to offer our skills in helping you discover a new outlet for researching the World Wide Web (www). We as community liaison researchers with you, can use the RRN site to authenticate our culture and language.

The RRN site has numerous artifacts from the Kwakwaka'wakw Nation and is continuously being updated with proper names, dates, language as well as corresponding villages. The Kwakwaka'wakw have many different tribes with very rich cultures that was, and still is, recorded by anthropologists and linguists. Collaborative efforts within our communities can make the RRN site an exciting and knowledgeable site for references and enjoyment of looking at First Nations art and culture.

I have been away from Alert Bay for over 17 years and I am very excited to be back. I am currently working on a (BA) of Urban & Regional Planning with two minors in English & Anthropology from Eastern Washington University (EWU) U.S.A 1995- 1999 (completed 180 credits to date).

With the support of the U'mista Society and the Kwakwaka'wakw people I aspire to continue my studies on my bachelors of arts (BA).

In conclusion, I extend my support and am looking forward to your support in reviewing and building up the information of the RRN site.

Gilakas'la.

Herman P. Bruce, JR

Community Liaison Researcher (CLR)



Pewi Alfred: Language Curriculum Trainee

On June 23rd 2008 I flew to Santa Barbara, California with my best friend Caroline, my son Michael Moon and to meet with Mike Willie, Deanna Nicholson, Beverly Lagis, and my grandmother Daisy Sewid-Smith, to participate in a linguistic course offered at the University of Santa Barbara, California which was sponsored by the University of British Columbia (UBC) First Nation Department of Linguistics. The first two weeks that we were there I took an infield workshop. There were many other people including myself from all over the world participating at this workshop who had a chance to give presentations on strategies and methods that work for our languages, and we also shared common challenges. There are many endangered languages in the world. Workshops that help and support linguists, students, or people learning a language gives us hope that we aren't alone. If we continue to help each other, by sharing and contributing, it will be more beneficial to our language and our people.

My granny Daisy and Aunty Bev Lagis flew to Santa Barbara to be with us as our resource mentors. For the last four weeks we were in class working with 8 other linguist, students and elders. It was quite exciting that they were so interested in our language. This too was a culture shock, learning linguistics is quite difficult. It is a language in itself. As we sat in our class, I didn't know what they were saying. We had to learn the terms of language such as; phonology—what sound a word makes phonetics—the writing system and how to use them, NAPA—North

American Phonetic Alphabet, and grammar of our language. We carefully took a look at our language and learned to understand why things are the way they are and where you would use them.

Latʔan laxa kəlwilasi

I am going to the store (not visible, cannot touch)

La= Go

ʔ= later/future (something you haven't done yet, but are going to do in the near future)

an= I

La- to/go

xā= the (far or cannot see)

kəlwilas= store/place for shopping

i= Can't see it and it also indicates that the object maybe further away from you.

Latʔan laxwa kəlwilasex

I am going to the store (object/subject is closer, and you can see)

La= Go

ʔ= Future/later (in time)

an= I

La= go/to

xwa= the (beside you or Someone can touch, or it is visible)

kəlwilas= store (place for shopping)

ex= beside you, you can see the object/subject

ʔsəmʔida's xux da kadayux-

Point to the pen.

ʔsəmʔ= Point

id= an action you are going to do

a's= you (command) **xux-** it (within the room)

da= that (you cant point or see)

You use an id[a] when you want someone to do something (action). Then you add an as|ux|an. So that you know who they are talking about.

These are just a few examples to show you what we learned to understand the introduction of linguistics. The course really helped us to understand our language more in depth. Our language is so descriptive that to properly describe where the person, place or thing you are referring to is situated, whether the person or thing is visible (in the same room), will reflect the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd person vocabulary. We learned so much in such a short period of time which was stressful and frustrating at times but all worth it in the end. Thank you to Dr. Patricia Shaw, Granny Daisy and Aunty Bev for traveling half way around the world to teach us. Through this we know how important our language and people are to you and helping towards preservation and revitalization of our language. We made it through this intense course only with tons of support from so many people. We each had our gifts that we brought to the class and we helped one another in certain areas of difficulty.

When I returned home I continued with the Master Apprentice kwak'wala immersion program which is going very well.

I completed my second phase of the program which includes writing with the international writing system, and grammar. I understand I can't be fluent overnight and that there is so much work to be done and my granny Daisy is a very patient teacher and I appreciate the time that she has given me through out the past year. She moved away from her own home to teach me everything she knows. During the 300 hours of immersion we present 4 evaluations and invite 4 other fluent speakers to listen or ask me questions in kwakwala. The four elder/resource people that I asked are my grandmother Pauline Alfred, Lily Jolliffe, Uncle Tommy Speck, and Lorraine Hunt. They are all knowledgeable people that bring forward their own gifts to the evaluations with different dialects or ways of saying certain things but they understand each other. I thank them so much for helping me. I feel that I have come so far with my comprehension of kwak'wala. I have one more phase to go. I am excited to see what my granny has in store for me. I find that I can understand more than I can speak, I can figure out what people are saying and then I can answer.



University of Santa Barbara, California that's me in the front row with Mike Willie to my left and on my right, Pat Shaw, Granny Daisy Sewid-Smith and Aunty Beverly Lagis with Laura Ann Cranmer and Deanna Nicholson 3rd and 4th from left in back row



Sara Peterson,

Since working at U'mista Cultural Centre, I have learned more about my culture. I have read information provided throughout the museum about each Kwakwaka'wakw tribe and other cultures. There are

pictures that I have looked at from many years ago (archival). I have watched the movies "Box of Treasures" and "Potlatch...a strict law bids us dance". I watched both at school and in the Museum. Those are two very interesting videos about our culture and our people. The most important thing I have learned is having a responsibility to get up and go to work. Being on-time is something that I can barely do, so I've been learning to get better at that.

The first thing that I do when I get to the U'mista is make sure everything in the entrance and Gift Shop is nice and tidy. I then ask what needs to be done. I have spent some time shredding paper, pricing and tagging clothes and other things for the Gift Shop, counting post cards, touring the Centre to get more comfortable while working here, putting the movie on in the theatre if tourists want to watch "Box of Treasure". I helped decorate the Museum for Christmas. I put the tree together and then decorated it. I also put lights by the entrance doors and all throughout the Gift Shop. I have also been learning how to work the till.

I have very much enjoyed working here. This is a very beautiful museum that makes me proud to be First Nations. This has been a wonderful place to do my work experience and I could not have chosen a better place to spend my time. I am hoping to be back as a student worker this coming summer.



Agathe Cook,

I previously had the opportunity to work at the U'mista as a website design trainee. This training position began my career in web development and graphic design, which in turn lead to the ownership and

operation of my own business Skookum Graphics @ www.SkookumGraphics.com

I am thrilled about the opportunities that the U'mista Cultural Society has given me. I am fortunate to have begun working at the U'mista Cultural Society once again. I am now working with the society as a web developer and designer. My main purpose at U'mista is to complete updates for each website hosted by www.umista.ca

I have just completed the first project which included updating the incredible First Voices Kwak'wala website www.firstvoices.ca.

My role in the project development is to record, edit and input Kwak'wala words, and photographs into the First Voices website. This was an interesting process; I was able to learn about the Kwak'wala language as well as work along side Lorraine Hunt, Kwak'wala speaker

The second project is still in progress. I will be completing some important updates on the U'mista website @ www.umista.ca.

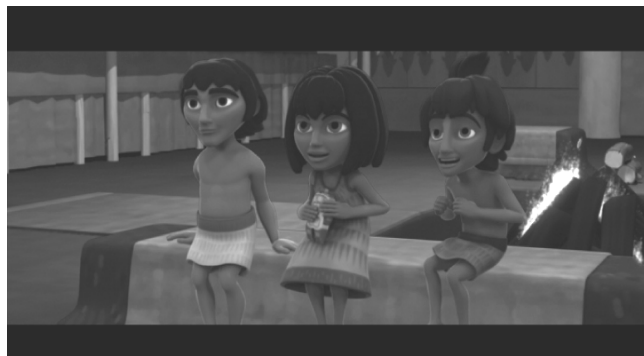
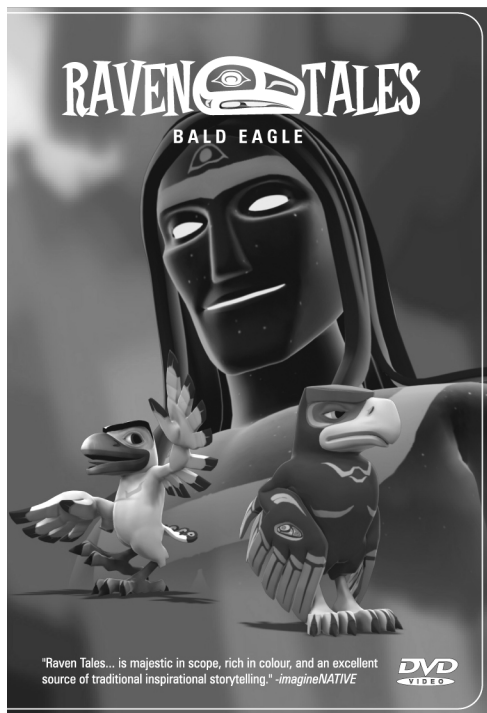
We want to attract new visitors and encourage previous visitors to keep coming back. I am extremely happy and thankful to be working here at the U'mista and helping to promote our people and culture through the internet.

Thank you,
Agathe M Cook

Culture and Animation:

Raven Tales sixth episode!

Bald Eagle \$20.00



Eagle, Frog and their new friends the first people in the land before time. *Raven Tales; Bald Eagle* is the sixth episode in this series of animated programs based on the multiple award winning film, *Raven Tales; How Raven Stole the Sun*, and celebrating First Nation folklore of the Northwest coast, *Raven Tales* chronicles the wild and wacky adventures of Raven, the most powerful and trickiest trouble maker of First Nation folklore. In this episode, Eagle (Ian Reid) tells the children a story of the creation time when he and raven (Dr Evan Adams, *Smoke Signals*) are still young and the world is new. One day, the Great Spirit comes to visit and asks the brothers to fly him over the world he has created. According to Eagle, the Great Spirit rewards his service with a crown of white feathers on his head, but Raven remembers a different story and tells the children what *really* happened....

Culture and Fashion: Kulus (pronounced coo loose) Designs, a woman's clothing line features contemporary West Coast Native Art. Amanda Anderson, of the Ławitis and Ma'amtagila tribes is the owner/operator. Kulus is a crest passed down to her by her family. It is believed that Kulus with amazing strength lifted up the logs to build the first house. The inspiration for this clothing line comes from Amanda watching her mother, Maxine Matilpi produce traditional native art regalia for potlatches.

Kulus Designs takes traditional art and brings it to our modern world while staying true to West Coast origin specific to the Kwakwaka'wakw .

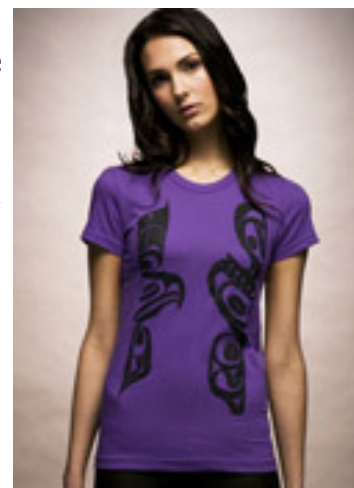


Bent Box Jacket – \$195.00

A biker style jacket with zipper front, mandarin style collar. A placket covers the zipper with rib knit at the cuff and waist band. This design is an eagle crest as it would be applied to a traditional bent box design by Rande Cook, 'Namgis.

Eagle & Whale T-Shirt – \$39.00

Rande Cook is well known for his contemporary layouts. He creates an abstract eagle and whale, which although are totally different figures, creates a balance.



Special Annual U'mista Events:

March 21st, 2009	Grandparents' Day
November 1st	U'mista 29th Anniversary
December 8th–24th	U'mista Annual Christmas Sale

Annual Community Events:

May 18th	May Day Parade–Races
June 19–21st	Soccer Tournament
June 21st	National Aboriginal Day
July 24–26th	Sea and Music Festival
December 5th	Christmas Craft Bazaar



NEW!–Regular Hours:

Now open: Tuesday to Saturday–9:00am to 5:00pm

Extended Summer Hours: May 17th to September 27, 2009

Seven days weekly 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Admissions: NEW!

Adults \$8.00 ● Seniors(65+)/Students \$7.00 ● Children –12 years and under \$1.00

●GST not included

Group rates apply for 15 persons or more, please call for reservations

Is your membership up to date? Do you want to become a member? Do you know what a membership will give you? Become a member. Find out more about membership details.

Contact: Lillian Hunt at 250-974-5403 or e-mail: lhunt@umista.ca

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The mandate of the U'mista Cultural Society is to ensure the survival of all aspects of the cultural heritage of the Kwakwaka'wakw