



Tsitsakalam



You are always guaranteed to find beautiful treasures

Issue Content:

Pg 2-5 Executive Director
Pg 6 LAM Scholarship
Pg 7 Community Garden
Pg 8-9 Welcome Home
Pg 10-11 Educational Events

Pg 12 Culture and Sports
Pg 13 Culture in School
Pg 14-15 Reciprocal Research Network
Pg 16-17 Summer Student Workers
Pg 18 Cultural Tourism Media
Pg 19 CBC Legends Project



Andrea Sanborn:
Executive Director

Notes from the Executive Director's desk...What a summer we are having; too hot for some, too dry for our rivers and our forests but wonderful to enjoy a relaxing day at the beach. The nice weather also brings us many visitors wanting to learn about our culture. We are also busy developing more funding proposals as the opportunities for them come our way.

To date we have received approval for our applications submitted to the North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society for language learning instruction and maintenance and in this project we have Pewi Alfred and Mariah Wadhams working on language. We have also had our proposal to the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council approved and this will also add financial support to our language maintenance program. We are planning to work with our member villages to capture and record the dialect differences in our language. We will be contacting them to discuss this further in the very near future. We are also planning on presenting community language classes so watch for the start up notice.

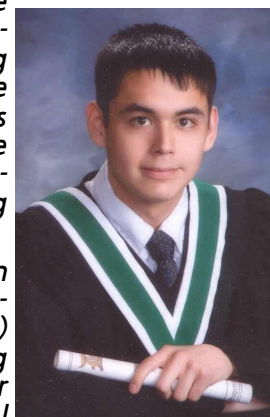


From top: Pewi Alfred,
Norma Louie, Mariah Wadhams

We have received funding from the BC Arts Council and from Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program. With these two proposals we will develop three exhibits; one of them will include an art design program which will result in an exhibit. The other will be a ceremonial blanket exhibit and the third will be the portion about the Kwakwaka'wakw First Nations which was included in *Listening to Our Ancestors*, a collaborative Pacific Northwest Coast exhibit at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC with the Kwakwaka'wakw portion curated by Barbara Cranmer. As well the BC Arts Council grant will cover some of our operating expenses. Thank you to both the BC Arts Council and the Canadian Heritage Museums Assistance Program for the support. It is very much appreciated.

This year Stephen Bruce Jr. returns under the North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society

funding and we are very happy to have him back for his third year as our summer student. Stephen graduated from North Island Secondary School this year so we are not sure we will have him back for next summer season. This will all depend on where he goes to school and what other opportunities might arise for him in his future. Norman Louie is our second summer student through the 'Namgis First Nations Student Employment program. Norma is working on language projects with Pewi Alfred. She is adding kwakwala words to our database with FirstVoices and she has been accompanying Pewi on some language interviews. As our summer students have only two more weeks in their employment program, we can only expect so much from them. We hope they take away what they have learned here, apply them to their continuing study habits or future employment choices. Their presence as summer students at the U'mista is an enjoyable one for us and a learning opportunity for them. It is also a learning opportunity for some of our staff members as they begin to learn about coaching and time management and accepting more responsibilities in their positions as they become mentors to our summer students. We are always thinking about future human resource needs for the U'mista and this is a good way to highlight the opportunities here to the students while they are thinking about their career choices.



The Community Liaison Team in our project for the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) website has been busy doing some travel. You will see their notes in this newsletter. As I watch them in their work and follow some of their research, I can only think about how much they too are learning in this position. They are part of a team to ensure we fulfill part of our mandate to collect, record and make available information and records relating to the language and history of the Kwakwaka'wakw. The work David Houghton and Lawrence Isaac are doing for us for the RRN is important to getting information about the Kwakwaka'wakw culture correct for use in partner museum collections databases. Often the information currently held in museum collections around the world is very sparse, sometimes not all correct and updates required in this day of technology is now easy to do. This RRN project is collaboration with community members holding this information and wanting to share it with us to ensure this information is correct for our own future generations to use. If you want to know more about this project or see how it works, come in to visit David, Lawrence and Lillian Hunt is also on the project and can be available should you have any questions.

International museums and education institutions continue to express interest in partnering on either developing exhibits or presenting workshops. We will be hosting a conservation workshop, Caring

for Totem Poles, at U'mista in early October. We have posted information about these workshops in the community and have sent them to our member band offices. As seating is limited, if you are interested in participating please call us to arrange a seat in the workshop which is sponsored jointly by the Canadian Conservation Institute and U'mista Cultural Society.

In mid-June I attended a Reciprocal Research Network/Steering Committee meeting and workshop in Chilliwack along with the Community Liaisons David Houghton and Lawrence Isaac. We were treated to a place name tour in the Stó:lō Nation up the Fraser Valley from Chilliwack to Yale with guide Sonny McHalsie. It was an excellent tour, very informative and very interesting. Thank you to fellow Steering Committee member Dave Scheappe for coordinating the trip along with his staff. Our Community Liaisons also attended the Elders Conference held in Terrace, BC this year. Both David and Lawrence felt this was a great opportunity to discuss the RRN project with those in attendance, to let them know about the research project and to explain the advantage of their participation in the project..

David Houghton and Lawrence Isaac returned home from the Elders conference in Terrace and then went to Kingcome. Lillian Hunt was able to join them and they spent two days in the community meeting with Council, Elders youth and other community members in the Health Centre. Again, they felt this trip was informative for themselves as well as to the community and they received valuable feedback about the RRN.



I was privileged to be invited to Emcee the Grad 2009 Recognition dinner this year. It was nice to see the huge community turn out to honor our grads. The decorating committee has to be commended for the great job they did. The Lawrence Ambers Recreation Centre looked great for the event. Congratulations again to all our graduates, we are very proud of all of them. During the last two weeks we worked with the CBC Legacies project Producers developing the Kwagu'ł Legends project. A number of Kwakwaka'wakw legends were selected to be dramatized in English with a few kwak'wala words and phrases included. A number of community members were selected through an audition process to "act" out the various parts in the legends.. We were also lucky enough to have a talented and dedicated staff and community members to help us translate and transcribe the legends into kwak'wala.



Reciprocal Research Network Community Liaisons



***William Wasden (Wa) singing, CBC recording
for the Legends project UCC photo***



***Wren Ranville, Vance Conway Jr, Stephen Bruce Jr, Randy Govereau, Curtis Mackie,
Cole Peterson, Kannon Jones, Alden Christianson, Robert Mountain,
Mathew Joseph, Kari-Ann Stauffer, Gabriela Emery, Mateo Kostering***

These will be aired on CBC Radio sometime this fall. We will also have the CDs of the project available at the U'mista. This will become an important language learning resource for our kwakwala learners of all ag-



Shonna Welsh during vocal try outs with Pewi Alfred, Language Curriculum Trainee who assisted with Kwakwala phrases throughout the project. UCC photo

es. We will let you know when these become available to us. This was a project demanding commitment in time and energy, sharing of knowledge and delivery of the dramatized versions of the legends. I am sure you will appreciate listening to them. This is another example of an opportunity coming our way, letting us add to our database of kwakwala words and phrases archived at www.firstvoices.ca. See our kwakwala language page there; we have an ever expanding list thanks to the dedication of the late Lorraine Hunt and her protégé Pewi Alfred.

In closing, I hope you all continue to enjoy the rest of the summer and look to an Indian Summer which usually brings us great weather too. We invite our members to

come in and visit us, see what's going on, talk to our staff and to community members not yet members of the U'mista Cultural Society, come in and get a membership. On July 30, 2009 and on behalf of U'mista Cultural Society, Chairman Bill Cranmer and I attended a meeting along with our legal counsel Stan Ashcroft with Indian and Northern Affairs (INAC) Canada-Treaties and Aboriginal Government Negotiations West and Negotiations Central to discuss our dormant Specific Claim. There has been neither action nor any indication of an official response to our Claim. We discussed options to come to an agreement to settle our Claim. Although no resolution was reached to settle our Claim, we discussed other possible options to ensure that operating the U'mista Cultural Centre continues far into the future. We are optimistic there is a will on the part of the INAC negotiating team to find a solution to some of our funding challenges.



Pewi (centre) with her kwakwala students, Norma Louie (left) and Mariah Wadhams UCC photo

2009 Alert Bay High School and University Graduates:**North Island Secondary School Grade 12:**

Stephen Bruce Alden Christianson Vance Conway Emily Cook
 Randy Govereau Kannon Jones Mathew Joseph Curtis Macki
 Robert Mountain Michael Paul Cole Peterson Wren Ranville
 Kari-Ann Stauffer

Linnea Dick and Zachary Taylor Esquimalt High, Victoria

Gabriella Emery, Heritage Park Secondary Mateo Kostering, Burnaby Central High

Shayline Perrault, Carihi Secondary, Campbell River

Jenna Peterson University of Victoria Bachelor of Education
 Lori Speck University of Victoria Bachelor of Social Work
 Angela Isaac University of Victoria Bachelor of Psychology
 Rebecca McKenzie University of Victoria



Kari-Anne Stauffer and Carlene Gullstrom

Are the recipients of this years Lawrence Ambers Scholarship.

Shown here with U'mista Chairman, Bill Cranmer presented Kari-Anne her scholarship at the NISS ceremony.

Unfortunately we have no photo of Carlene as she is away at Capilano University in Vancouver.

The Lawrence Ambers Memorial Scholarship committee extends its congratulations and best wishes for your future educational endeavors.

Photo: Christina Cook

Please contact the Lawrence Ambers Memorial Scholarship Committee for further information about how you qualify and how to apply for the scholarship: Susan Souch @ U'mista Cultural Centre 250-974-5403

Community Garden Project Meeting!! Everyone Invited!

Have you ever thought of growing your own food and/or garden, but didn't know how to get started?

Watch for dates to join us at the Inner Coast Natural Resource Centre (ICNRC) to see how we can get a community garden project going for Alert Bay!!

For more information, call Sharon Gordon @ 250-974-2029

Van-

Thank you for your interest in the community garden project for Alert Bay. As you requested, here is some background information:

Don Pepper recently moved home from Richmond. He mentioned his interest in starting a community garden project in Alert Bay, so the two of us got together to begin working on this idea. Don prepared a letter to the Alert Bay Mayor and Council and to the 'Namgis Chief and Council about our plan to hold community engagement meetings. The letters were intended to give our leaders the 'heads up' on our plans and to request their support of the idea. Pearl Hunt at the Whe-la-la-U is also aware of this idea and is also excited about being involved. The initial community meeting held on Sunday, April 26th to see how many people are interested in a community garden. Sandra Waarne of the Vancouver Island Health Authority and Georgia Cook of the 'Namgis Health Centre informed us that this idea was received with enthusiasm at the Alert Bay Health Survey meeting. Community gardening is a great way to build a sense of community, local spirit and pride. It encourages teamwork and cooperation, provides a healthy means of getting exercise while meeting your neighbours, and provides an opportunity for all ages and skill levels to share their experience and learn from others. Gardens can include a combination of vegetable and herb gardens, butterfly and bird gardens, children's and senior's gardens and container beds. Gardens can be as unique as the community tending it. Gardens can be arranged as separate allotments, as one large community garden tended by all, or a combination of both. Any group of people that come together to garden is a community garden. Every community garden is different and is determined by what the gardeners themselves want. Gardens can be created for a specific "audience", such as children, seniors, single parents, people with disabilities or they can be all inclusive and accommodating for many different types of use. Gardens can be focused on vegetables, flowers, native plants, herbs, or some combination of these things. I am excited about this idea and look forward to seeing you on Sunday! Please spread the word!

Sharon Gordon, Community Development Leader

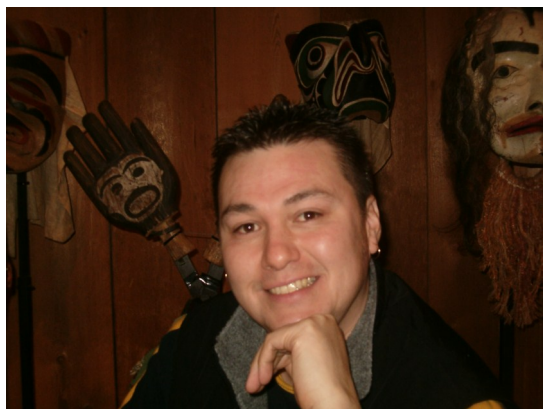
couver Island North

Community Capacity Building Strategy

An initiative of the BC Healthy Living Alliance

Led by the Canadian Cancer Society



Sergeant
WilliamWil-
An-

William Wasden Jr. (Wa), Resident Researcher

thony McDougall, CD



A "Welcome Home Dinner" was held on August 17th to honour the homecoming of Billy McDougall who left 20 years ago to join the Canadian Forces, something he always dreamed of doing. Billy's accomplishments and recognitions of his success were listed in "Fall 2008 U'mista Newsletter" after his retirement celebration in Edmonton.

Held at the Lawrence Amber's Memorial Recreation Center, the evening started with Billy greeting his community with his big smile, huge hugs and contagious laugh. Elected and Hereditary 'Namgis Chief Kwaxala'nukwame' William T. Cranmer welcomed Billy home and thanked everyone for showing up. The singers opened with the traditional Tla'sala song belonging to 'Namgis 1st Sisantle' "Kwikw" Chief Udzistalis Kwixalagi'lakw Sonny Alfred also attending. The song officially welcomed Billy, his wife Shannon and daughter Emily home.

It was conveyed earlier in the evening that Billy's grandfather and his original namesake and his father, Billy McDougall were very closely related to the Alfred family through "Granny Axuwa" Agnes Alfred and shared roots in 'Mimkwamlis "Village Island". (this does not make sense to me)

Another song, the great Hildzakw song "O'yawa Haley" which came through marriage to Kwikwasutinuxw Head Chief 'Maxwakulala Johnny Scow, Billy's great-great-grandfather on his father's mother Christine's side of the family. As the great Hoylikala song was being sung, a receiving line for each to welcome Billy and his family Christine, father Eddie "Bones", uncles David and Jackie and aunty including his grandmother Mona. (this does not make sense either) At the end of the song, hugs of affection were given to Billy and his family.

Elder Peggy Svanvik offered the grace asking for blessings and protection for Billy and his family for his future journeys. During dinner, stories roasting Billy about his earlier days in the Bay were presented. Granny Christine requested that Billy's old soccer team-mates sit with him at the head table. Lawrence

Isaac "Spider" brought some soccer paraphernalia and displayed it on the head table. A very small "Cormorant" jersey was laid out for all to see and it was weighted with trophies so that it could hang in front of the table for all to see. Retired veteran Cormorant Denis Johnston took it upon himself to put the little uniform on, stretching the living out of it and announcing that he could still fit it and was the only one who could, a slight to the rest of the players present not fitting their old uni's due to well earned retirement indulging. The trophies were dusty and some broken, but still a bitter sweet reminder of the greatness of the Alert Bay soccer history and the days when Billy played his heart out for his team, tribe and nation. Some of the teams mentioned were the U14 "Dave Landon Motors" Escorts, U16 Strikers, Cormorants, all championship teams in their day.

A 'Namgis feast song was sung following dinner. It was mentioned that the choice of songs was to recognize Billy's great-great-grandfather Tsitsa'walagame' Chief Tlakwa Sam Scow's great cultural standing amongst the 'Namgis tribe. The singers sang the favourite "Gwa'wina" kwila'yala as the people clapped and the ladies danced in rhythm with the song. A Mamulakwala "Thank You" song belonging to Chief Sonny Alfred was sung and Billy with his family led the dance around the hall. As the dancers passed, the guests rose from their seats and joined them. This followed with speeches and words of pride for Billy.

The first speaker called was Billy's grandmother Christine; being a shy elder, she asked Janet Wasden to speak for her. Janet simply thanked the people for coming and let Billy know how much he was loved. Then Billy's father was asked to share a few words and stood to let his son know how proud he was of him and gave emotional gratitude to the people for attending the dinner. Billy then rose and with his good wit and charm humoured the guests. His unfading, good old Alert Bay humour kept all in stitches. Billy thanked Vera Newman, his nursery school teacher. He presented her with a framed certificate for her life-time support and embraced her with the usual Billy Mac python-like hug. He also presented a certificate to Janet Wasden for her lifelong support referring to her as his "2nd mother". His final presentation was to his grandmother Christine. He told her he loved her and that in his heart he knows how much she loves him commenting that he knew that the dinner was planned on a Monday because there was no Bingo! Billy thanked his family and friends for coming together and the community of Alert Bay for always making him feel that home is where the heart is saying no matter how long he

stays away, when he comes home, the people are as warm and the same as the last time he saw them.

The floor was opened for those felt moved to speak. Among the speakers were Lawrence Isaac who reminisced about the soccer days of their youth and Billy's dedication to the teams he played for and his fitness. Next was Gerald "Diddick" Alfred who recapped Billy's determination to play on the "best" teams and with players that could contribute to nothing less than victory. Ex-coaches Billy Wasden and Bruce Alfred "Class 2" spoke about Billy's work ethics and determination in everything that he did relating it to the characteristics that he has carried on throughout his years. Gerry "Longo" Alfred got up to wel-

come Billy on behalf of the Alfred family and reminded Billy that although he had worked his way to Sergeant, he was not as decorated as his father Eddie who was a "Captain" of a seine boat. Next, legionnaire Elizabeth "Tidi" Nelson was asked to share her plans for Billy. Tidi felt it was important to recognize Billy for his dedication and membership in the Canadian Forces. She announced another gathering for Billy will be at the Legion Branch #198. The last speaker, Shelley J. Cook spoke about being Billy's neighbour in their childhood and how he was always a natural leader controlling "the hood" intramural games with his excellent supply of sports gear and game time regulations. To conclude the evening, a circle of the singers sang a farewell paddling song with everyone else joining hands, connecting with each other for Billy and his family. The lyrics to the siwuyala "paddling song" were meant to parallel Billy's life, the path and choices he has made. Thanks Bro for the memories and the never-ending love and friendship that you bring each time you come home. You are a hero and a role model for our people, your people. Love Bro, William Wasden Jr.



**Kaleb Child**

District Principal, First Nations, Early Learning & Education Initiatives
School District #85, Vancouver Island North
PO Box 90 Port Hardy, BC V0N 2P0
(phone) 250-949-6618 ext. 2233
(fax) 250-949-8792 (cell) 250-230-7750 kchild@sd85.bc.ca

August 10, 2009

**Re: 3rd Annual Early Learning and Literacy Fair
September 26, 2009 at the Port Hardy Civic Centre**

To Whom It May Concern:

You are invited to reserve a booth for the 3rd Annual Early Learning and Literacy Fair.

The Early Learning and Literacy Fair will promote parents as literacy support to their children, inform families about children's learning and development, provide information to families on Vancouver Island North's services and programs, and offer enjoyment for all.

This event will feature a performance by Bobs & Lolo, a dynamic duo that are dedicated to connecting kids to the natural world with music, movement and make-believe. This event will also offer hours of great local entertainment. Display booths and literacy activities will be available for families to explore. A free lunch, book walk, and door prizes through-out the day will enhance this day of fun and learning.

This year's event will take place at the Port Hardy Civic Centre on Saturday, September 26th, 2009. Set-up will begin at 9:30 am with booths operating between 10:30 am and 1:00 pm. We are kindly requesting that all booths be closed during the performances. A free lunch will be served from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, with the featured concert beginning at 1:10 p.m.

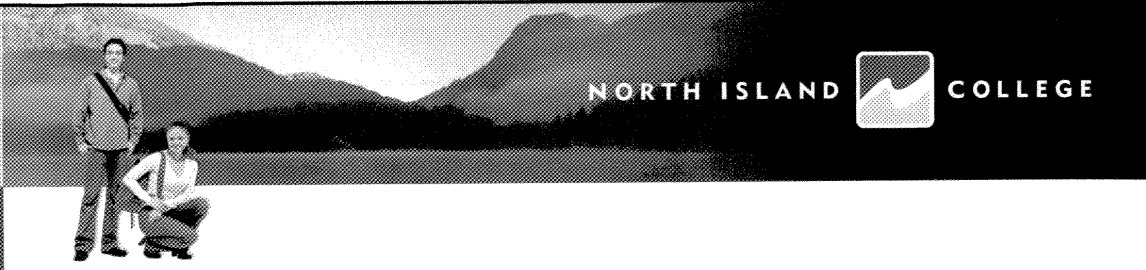
Please fill out the attached booth form and review the schedule. If you have any questions, please contact the coordinator, Stephanie Nelson at 902-2667. We look forward to your participation at this special event!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Nelson

Early Learning and Literacy Fair Coordinator

/on behalf of the Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society



SILVER JEWELLERY MAKING - BEGINNERS

Learn the skills required to create your own jewelry with goldsmith, Jan Hellerud leading the way. This hands-on course will familiarize you with some basic tools and equipment used to make jewelry. We will explore construction/fabrication techniques, silver soldering, how to bezel set a stone, finishing/polishing, and surface ornamentation. Our goal is to produce three finished pieces of jewelry, keeping in mind the skill level and progress of each person. The course is labour intensive and has a moderate degree of difficulty therefore good eye/hand co-ordination would be useful.

Please note: A kit will be available at a cost of \$25, containing basic supplies provided at cost (solder, sanding sticks, emery etc). Kit fee is payable to the instructor during the first class. Please ask for a supply list of materials to bring from home.

Registration Deadline is Sept 18, 2009

Schedule: Sat, Sept 26, 12:00 – 4:00 pm
And Sun, Sept 27, 9 am – 1 pm (2 classes)

Instructor: Jan Hellerud
Tuition: \$169.00

Register Early, Space is Limited

For more information, please call **250-949-7912** or **250-949-2851**
You must notify us 7 days prior to the start of the course to obtain a refund
ARTS 5110

Charlene Miller

Aboriginal Education Advisor, North Island College

Port Hardy Campus, Gold River & Bella Coola Centres

Ph: 250-949-2860 or 1-866-332-1133 Ext. 2860 Fax: 250-949-2617

Culture and Sports:

Some awesome moves were made at the 51st Annual Soccer Tournament here in Yalis on June 18-20th 2009. The long history of incredible talent living, playing, winning soccer games in Yalis is legendary.

Long standing local teams Cormorants, Reds, Wolves, Thunderettes, Breakers, 96 er's, Kwagiulth battle it out every year to the delight of screaming, cheering fans sitting in clearly marked team sections around the field.

Thank you to Christina Cook for all the great photos.



Alert Bay team, U-6 with team coach Don McKinney



*Junior T-Birds (Thunderbirds)
Looking good and ready to play soccer!*



*Battle of the Mikes
Mike Willie makes the play Mike Daley makes the save!*



Thunderettes Ladies play a great game with NIFA Ladies team.



Great save by Kingcome goalie, against Cormorant play.

Culture and Education:

The annual "End of School Ceremony" takes place at our Gukwdzi (ceremonial house). The young students present their knowledge of songs and dances that are carried and passed on for generations through the potlatch ceremony.



*Seated, Elder Roy Cranmer, Chief Ed Newman
Destiny Speck dancing photo Christina Cook*



Demonstrating the Tsala Chief's Peace Dance for the Chiefs seated in background.

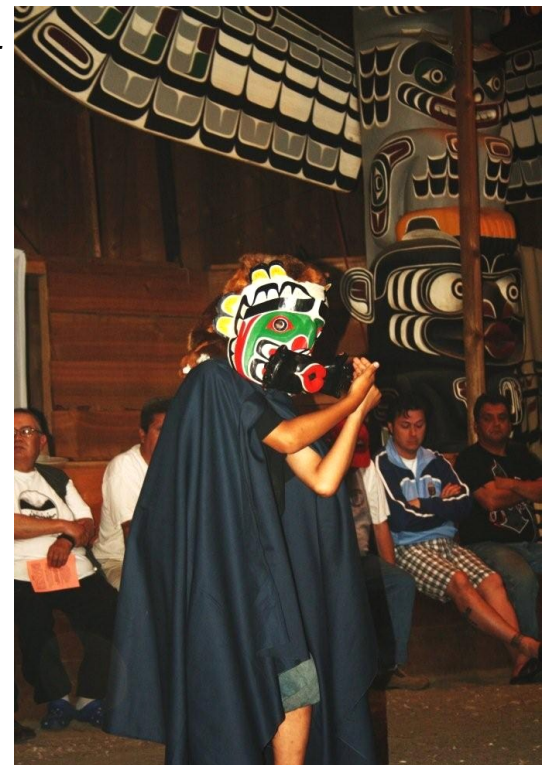


Josie Cook and Isabella Glazov seated on memorial bench



Left: Moses Smith leading a song at the drum log

Right: demonstrating the Sapa with the Dzunuwa on the interchangeable mouth piece.





**Lawrence Isaac,
RRN-CL**

On June 14th 2009 before our Reciprocal Research Network Community Liaison (RRN-CL) meeting in Chilliwack we enjoyed a bus tour of the Sto:lo region with local Sto:lo guide Sonny McHalsie, a man full of knowledge and wisdom sharing his

knowledge of the territory with legends and stories. This tour was full of beautiful scenery and historical sites and events of the past. Later the Sto:lo held BBQ and a local dance performance.

July 11th we attended the Elders Gathering in Terrace, hosted by the Nis'ga First Nation. There was a lot of

interest shown in the RRN booth we set up for the 3 day conference.



July 29th our trip

to Kingcome started out with a flight on a sea plane to a clear, hot day and spectacular view. Our first presentation was for chief and council and employ-

a cleanse in a beautiful set of water falls with Les Dawson who shared his knowledge of what has been passed on to him through his father. Les told me about some of the old smoke house sites and fishing sites and also how much the river has changed just in his life time. This was a treat for me to learn of the history which was the highlight of my trip.

Our visit to the Museum of Anthology (MOA) was



Lawrence with Les Dawson up river at one of the fabulous falls in the Kingcome Inlet Photo: Lawrence Isaac

truly like going back into history, seeing the old masks and regalia sitting right before my eyes. As we walked through the archives we had a chance to share what we know about some of the pieces that are stored there. It was very exciting for us and our co-workers to share what is on the RRN site already and what will be on there in the future We finished off with another meeting just going through the site again. This was an awesome trip!



ees. Emotions expressed on the history of items that are currently in museums and with the history of our people with the potlatch ban. I pointed out that this site has opened the door to the museums and a way to study and learn from history so we can move forward and go to the RRN site anytime. The afternoon presentation was attended by elders, youth and community members. Over all the trip to Kingcome was a success I feel with the amount of people that were there they showed a bit of interest. I was treated to a trip up river (see pg 15) after work and went for



**David Houghton,
RRN-CL**

Lillian, Lawrence and I had the pleasure of going to Kingcome. It is always great to get the opportunity to go home. Riding up river is always an awe-inspiring journey. Having got ourselves settled,

we headed for the health center to check in with Elizabeth Taylor. Arrangements were made for the next day's presentations. We set up our equipment and booked two sessions for the following day.

Our work in this project is moving ahead on a weekly basis. As awareness rises, people are interested in what the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) has to offer. It is always interesting to hear what people have to say. Our workshops have gone in different directions: the morning session, council and administration arrive for our presentation.

The RRN opens up all kinds of possibilities, our discussion soon turned to the sticky subject of repatriation. I think this is something that is outside the scope of our work for the RRN. One thing we can say is that the RRN has become known as a form of virtual repatriation. That being said, we can facilitate the process. Having this opportunity to give our cultural items an open window for all to see, is the aim of this web site. Reciprocal is a mutual exchange. Giving from both sides is expected.

Having Northwest coast artifacts on a web site, gives us access. Having gained this access, we can contribute our knowledge and recreate often poor records that museums keep. Our family's heritage and people can be acknowledged with our input. This will ensure we have representation and will prove ownership of our family's heritage. Reciprocal's origin is "returning the same way" with this in mind, maybe? This will open the door for future generations.

Our afternoon presentation was open to the community as a whole. This was well attended. We were able to show items related to all the families that were present. There are many items in the Vancouver University of British Columbia (UBC), Museum of Anthropology (MOA) collection relating to Kingcome. We gathered a lot of relevant information from the people in the village. This information will be presented to MOA from the RRN Community Liaison interviews for reference on the object.

Every trip we make, we are increasing awareness for this important work that is being done. The web site is in constant revision, and new features are constantly being added. New institutions are now contributing, swelling the number of items that can be researched and viewed.



Lillian Hunt, RRN-CL on the punt ride up the river to Kingcome. The weather was warm and sunny, everyone had a great time!



Maria Wadhams, Summer Student

On August 4th, I started working at U'mista Cultural Centre with the 'Language Teacher Assistant Program' for 31 weeks and is funded through North Vancouver Island Aboriginal Training Society (NVIATS) and the U'mista Cultural Centre. I work with Pewi Alfred and together we are creating a training program to enable me to learn all aspects of our Kwakwaka'wakw language, with the help a linguistics professor and a translator/transcriber. I also assist Pewi in creating a curriculum to teach Kwakwaka'wakw for our community classes, which commence in October. I will also learn how to enter "new" words into 'First Voices' after they have been corrected and verified.

The first two weeks CBC radio was here doing a 'Legends Project', which is a compilation of traditional oral stories, legends and histories of Canada's Inuit and First Nations, gathered in communities across the country from coast to coast." (CBC Website - Legends) They dramatized five Kwakwaka'wakw legends. With each legend they did two versions. One full Kwakwaka'wakw and one English with bits of Kwakwaka'wakw. There was 'auditions' for certain characters in the legends. They looked for who could recite expression while reading and pronounce kwakwaka'wakw. "The goals of the project

have evolved into meeting the increasing urgency to help First Nations' communities protect and promote their endangered languages, as well as lend pride to their rich cultural history." (CBC Website - Legends).

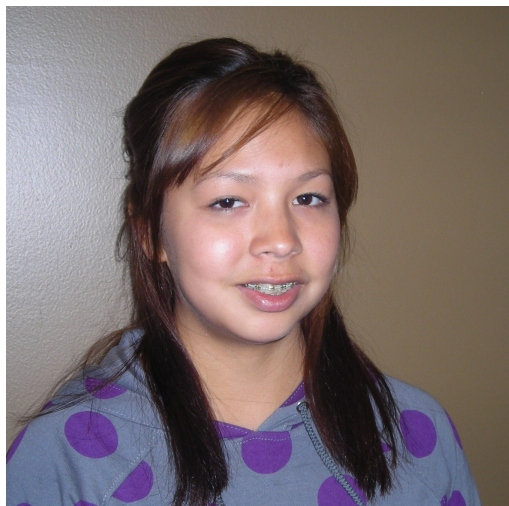
I was asked to do be the 'Wren' in the in legend "The Wren". I had to express my voice in a higher tone to sound as if a wren would sound if they talked. After I did the 'English version' with bits of kwakwaka'wakw, I had to learn my fifteen lines in full Kwakwaka'wakw. So for the start of work I was already learning to speak our language full force. I am still far away from knowing our language as an expert, but now I have a sense of how specific and challenging our language can be to learn. I really enjoyed the experience.

I have also transcribed my Granny Lily Jolliffe's translations of the legends, "Killer Whale Stalks its Prey" and "Peace Treaty". Through transcribing, I was put to a test by hearing kwakwaka'wakw and writing it down on the spot.

In the third week, we started Total Physical Response Lessons - known as TPR worldwide which is the most successful method to learn a new language. This week we started with the basic words we use everyday; stand up, sit down, walk, stop, etc. After each class, I write a lesson plan of the words I have learned. It is amazing how quickly I am catching on with this TPR method. There is only Kwakwaka'wakw spoken. It will definitely be a successful method for now anyone who comes to the classes. There is lots of fun and learning.

This project has just begun and I have already learned a lot. Not only am I learning the language, but also I am learning songs, legends, and how to do a tour of the Potlatch Collection. Thank you U'mista for giving me this opportunity.

Gilakas'la



Norma Louie, Summer Student

I am the summer student of 2009 here at the U'mista Culture Centre. I am honored and proud to experience working here.

I started work June 29, 2009, through the 'N̄amgis First Nation Youth Employment Program.

Pewi Alfred is training me how to read, write and type kwakwala on the computer. I've learned songs and dances, their meanings and some tribal legends. Pewi also taught me how to edit recordings and add kwakwala words on the website called First Voices. I even made a number movie and it's published on you tube. So check out the websites. My goal is to accomplish a kwakwala game to contribute to our schools, to encourage our young ones to keep our language alive. I think our language is strong, it's very important to our people and it's our turn; it's our generation to tell our young ones it's important to know our culture.

The second month working here was even better; Mariah Wadhams started working here, so Pewi, Mariah and I are team-mates.

CBC crew came here to U'mista to record our legends and making a movie out of it.

We're also working on Total Physical Response (TPR) method used to teach languages. There is

no reading or writing, its internalization, all in your mind.

My program is ending August, 28,2009, but that doesn't mean that I won't be back. I enjoy working here, it's fun, and I'm learning more and more each day.

I would like to thank Randy Bell and the 'N̄amgis First Nation for giving me this experience and Andrea Sanborn for being a good Boss, and especially to Pewi Alfred for teaching me what I've learned. I will be carrying on my experience to the people I know and I would like to encourage all kwakwaka'wakw to start learning, because our language is wicked. So there shouldn't be any excused to not learn, Pewi and Mariah will be doing kwakwala classes in October.

Gilakasla

***Coming soon!
Kwakwala Language Classes
will be starting this Fall.
Please watch for upcoming
announcements with dates.***

***Gilakas'la
Pewi Alfred,
Language Curriculum
Development Trainee***

Cultural Tourism and Media:

Aboriginal Tourism Association of British Columbia (AtBC) came to U'mista on August 14th to film the membership website www.aboriginalbc.com as part of their Blueprint Strategy which is supported nationally and provincially.

Tourism British Columbia (now a branch within the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts) familiarization (FAM) tour is specifically arranged for Tourism BC media relations staff to update their product knowledge of Northern Vancouver Island. Three of the TBC media relations team will be spending four nights in the area and will be visiting various properties for brief site visits, talking to tourism operators and representatives, and experiencing activities such as guided tours, kayaking, and whale watching. This will enable the media representatives to gain first-hand knowledge and experience in order to pitch story ideas to media, as well as gain knowledge for developing itineraries. In addition, one of the Tourism BC online department team will also attend, with the opportunity of updating the information on content or suggestions for online information. Also joining the group and gaining information on the north island product will be the recently hired coordinator for Tourism North Vancouver Island. Escorting the group will be Tourism Vancouver Island's Regional Media Relations

Global TV covered the AtBC media visit and did an excellent storyline on U'mista which aired Mon Aug 17th 2009. You can view on

www.globaltv.com

Knowledge Network:

Erik Pualsson of Redstorm Productions, Vancouver for Knowledge Network is producing a series of short vignettes on the history of British Columbia for a Knowledge Network documentary. This will be aired in the coming year.

On the U'mista Book Shelf:

Kwakiutl Legends

as told to Pamela Whitaker
by Chief James Wallas

Namag'is



The
sto-18
\$14.95

ries in this book relate the traditional tales which Mr. James Wallas has learned from his elders, who lived in Quatsino Sound and on Hope Island. Mr. Wallas's forefathers are members of a people known generally as the Kwakiutl, although the term is misleading because it originally referred to a sub-group living at Fort Rupert. The Kwakiutl inhabit an area which at present includes Campbell River at the southern extreme, Quatsino Sound at the western extreme, various inlets of mainland B.C. at the eastern extreme, and Smiths Inlet at the northern extreme. Traditionally, the Kwakiutl lived in villages located in this general area (excluding Campbell River and Cape Mudge) which were organized into tribes. Today, most of them live on reserves near towns, maintaining some remote villages for food preparation and preserving during the spring, summer and fall.

CBC Legends:

The following stories are being recorded until August 13th:

William Wasden: Path of Our Ancestors: A story about the traditional route taken to the west coast of the (Vancouver) island and rediscovered in recent history.

Peace Treaty with the Killer Whales: A boy convinces the Kwakiutl that they should no longer hunt or be hunted by the killer whale and strikes a permanent agreement for peace.

The Killer Whale Stalks its Prey: Naughty boys use the fluke of a whale for target practice, only to have discover with a life time curse, that whales are the ancestor spirits of Kwakiutl.

Pauline Alfred: Wren and Elk: When a small wren encounters a magnificent Elk, the Wren discovers that even the smallest of us can defeat a bully.

The Origins of Dance & Song: A traditional story of how songs and dances came to the Kwakiutl.

20 people auditioned for about 14 parts. The production team includes William Wasden, Pewi Alfred and Andrea Sanborn, plus expert storytellers from the 'Namgis nation. Thank you everyone!

Leah Shaw

Producer, CBC Legacy Project

1531 - 20th St NE

Salmon Arm, BC

V1E 2G3 shawleah@telus.net 250-832-8462

Clockwise from top:

Waylon Isaac with Richard of CBC

Arthur Dick and Andrea Cranmer with her mom Vera Newman, adding vocal life to our Kwakwaka'wakw Legends.

All photos: Leah Shaw, CBC



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:

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



New! Regular Hours now:

Tuesday to Saturday–9:00am to 5:00pm

Extended Summer Hours:

May 19th to September 27th, 2009

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

NEW! Admissions now:

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

U'mista Cultural Centre

Box 253, Alert Bay, BC, V0N 1A0

tel:250-974-5403 fax:250-974-5499 e-mail: info@umista.ca www.umista.ca

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