



**gitlaxt'aamiks**  
GITMIDIHK: PEOPLE OF THE GRIZZLY

Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government

March 2016

## Piping Foundation Students Graduating



Three Piping Foundation students received their certificates on April 1, 2016.

Keane Tait, Adam Tait and Jeremy Johnson-Nisyok started the 18 week course on November 16, 2015 at the UA Piping Industry College in Terrace.

All 3 of them passed with very good grades and attendance.

In a circle discussion with the 8 Aboriginal Opportunities for Trades Upgrading (AOTU) students currently at the trade school, Keane said that you should focus on Math and Physics for any students that want to pursue a trades program.

Any way that you can familiarize yourself with associated tools that go along with it can really help you.

You should also prepare yourself with the hazards and dangers of the occupation that you eventually choose and build your experience to your occupation.

Keane got a part-time job as a HAZMAT and demolition work and he said that's the most dangerous job you can do. He worked with oxy acetylene torches and explosive materials and it really helped him when he came back in the shop.

Knowing when to crack a joke to help lighten the mood when you're on the job really helps too.

Jeremy said listen to your instructors and especially the students because one of them may be able to help you in a course that you're struggling with.

Adam said he wasn't that good at Math when he started out in the program but now he's pretty confi-

dent in it.

He said also that this is the place for trades, the instructors know their stuff and you get a different instructor for every trade so you don't get bored listening to one instructor all day.

It's mostly Math in all the trades so upgrade your Math skills before you get to this level it will help you.

Attendance is also very important. If you miss one day it like missing a whole week's work.

Jeremy said that if you miss out on learning job safety then you get left out in the class because you don't know what the safety precautions are.

Keane said you learn things in succession so you have to be there every day or else you will get left behind. You will be asking a lot of questions and you will be slowing the class down.

We did a whole day on safety precautions before we went into the welding shop.

If you missed that day on safety the rest of your class won't trust you because you don't know the safety precautions.

What if you have to work beside them and he blows everyone up because he or she doesn't know the safety precautions?

Attendance to every class is critical. Establishing good attendance habits in class will help you get a good job and is a really good habit to get into.

We found it useful to combine the graduating Piping Foundation students with the AOTU students because the graduating students could pass on what they've learned about themselves and the course. It gives the AOTU students inspiration and encouragement.

One of the AOTU students stated the course jumps back and forth and he found that challenging because he found it hard to focus.

Please join us in congratulating Keane, Adam and Jeremy in a job well done. Si'aamhl wilsim.

# Special Assembly GVG Planning Meeting



The Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government (GVG) staff had a planning meeting on April 13, 2016 for the upcoming Nisga'a Lisims Government (NLG) Special Assembly.

It is scheduled for May 2nd to 5th, 2016 in New Aiyansh.

Please take note of the new finish date of May 5, 2016. It starts at 10:00 am on the first day.

The Special Assembly will be 4 days long this year.

Topics discussed at the planning meeting include:

- GVG Booths will rotate daily as follows: GVG Public Works will be on Monday, May 2; GVG Programs & Services on Tuesday, May 3; GVG Community Relations on Wednesday, May 4; and GVG Finance & Administration on Thursday, May 5, 2016.
- \$72,500.00 budget from NLG for Special Assembly; \$12,000.00 from GVG budget from Social Assistants Employment Initiatives budget and it will be for the 10 additional employees hired for the duration of the Special Assembly.
- Darlene Morgan & Sherry Wright will look after the daily door prizes.
- Vendor tables and Nisga'a arts & crafts will be placed in the foyer area and the Youth Room and will be the responsibility of Sherry Wright.
- Floor plan will be finalized by Carl Azak.
- First Aid & Parking is the responsibility of Darryl Clayton and Walter Nisyok.
- GVG Public Works will be doing setup on Sunday, May 1, 2016 at 12:00 PM with all GVG staff to assist.
- Security for the week will be handled by Northern Valley Rangers Protection Services.
- Shuttle service will be provided for the Special Assembly and Maryann Adams will setup the rotation list for the drivers.
- All daily food preparations are done at the recre-

ation centre by the Smoke House Crew, Randy Chalifoux and 10 additional workers to be hired.

- Continental Breakfast will be from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM daily at the recreation centre.
- Coffee Breaks at 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM daily.
- Lunch at 12:00 PM daily.
- On Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 5:30 PM there will be a Tribal Picnic put on by all tribes in the Nass Valley.
- Currie Gosnell will also be re-staining the stairs in the foyer one side at a time.
- Daily clean-up will be done by YMCA & YWCA, 2016 Grads from NESS and Canoe Journey Crew.

## Wool Felting

Felt is a strong, natural material that 's been hand made around the world for thousands of years. People have used it for clothes, shoes, art, even the walls of houses and armour for battle!

Come learn the basics of this fun and easy craft, and make little critters or fabric out of loose wool!

Monday April 25th, 4 pm  
Gitlaxtaamiks Rec Center

## Important Dates

Wills & Estates

Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government office

Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC

April 26, 2016

Indian Residential School Anglican Church Apology

(GVG Shuttle Bus Service will be provided)

Laxgalts'ap

April 27, 2016

Special Assembly of the Nisga'a Nation

Gitlaxt'aamiks Recreation Centre

Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC

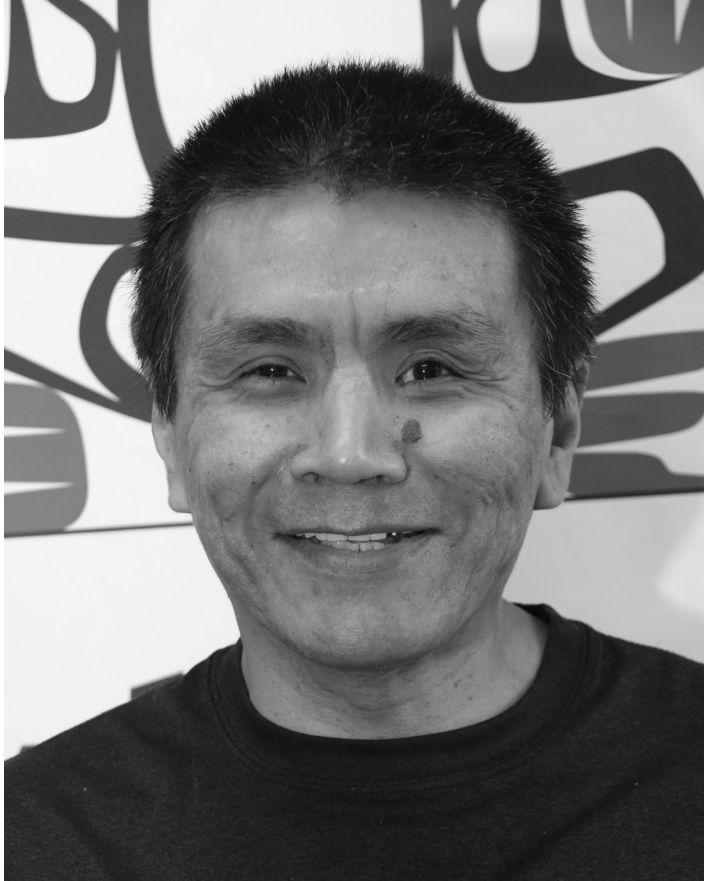
May 2 - 5, 2016

Aboriginal Day

Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC

June 17, 2016

## GVG New Hire



Duane Eli is from the Laxgibuu clan and is from Ksdiyaawak's Wilp.

His Nisga'a name is Kyaatkw. It was given to him by his mother the Late Rena Eli and his Auntie Maxine Azak.

Duane originally started work as a Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government (GVG) Smoke House Crew employee up until September 2014.

He needed some hours for Unemployment Insurance so GVG put him to work in the Records Management room in February 2015 going through boxes and boxes of files and shorting them out.

He did such a good job that on April 1, 2016 he was officially brought on GVG staff as Records Management employee.

Duane is currently waiting for word on Laserfiche training. It is essentially scanning a document into electronic file format so that you can work with them more effectively and efficiently.

Thanks to Duane a GVG staff member with proper authorization can now go into the Records Management room and find anything they want in a matter of minutes.

Please join us in welcoming Duane to his new position.

## GVG Employment Opportunity

Post Secondary Internship Program

Term Employment: 16 Weeks

Posting Date: April 20, 2016

Closing Date: May 4, 2016

Scope of Work:

The Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government (GVG) Post Secondary Internship Program is designed specifically for Post Secondary Students who are working towards a degree designation in the following areas:

- Social Work                      Social Worker Program
- Records Management        Business Administration

The purpose of the internship program is to provide the Post Secondary students with on-the-job training specific to their designation. Applicants must be returning Post Secondary students who are registered in one of the above programs.

While we appreciate all applications received, only those contacted will be interviewed. We reserve the right to re-post this position in the event that no qualified applicants apply. No faxes or telephone calls will be accepted.

Submit your cover letter, resume and three (3) current employment references to:

Dena Robinson  
Human Resources Manager  
Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government  
PO Box 233  
5200 Skateen Avenue  
New Aiyansh, BC  
V0J 1A0

## Quote Of The Month

Success is a journey, not a destination.

Vince Lombardi

# GVG Carpentry Apprentice Hire



Adrian Clayton and Dennis Johnson were recently hired as Carpentry Apprentices by GVG Operations & Maintenance (O&M).

Adrian requires 1200 hours for his first year carpentry and Dennis needs 3600 hours for his second year carpentry.

Both are working at getting their Red Seal in carpentry.

Adrian said that he couldn't find carpentry work anywhere and he's really glad that he got the opportunity to apprentice with GVG. The carpentry work is at home too.

Dennis said that he is glad to have a normal job again.

They are both working with Currie Gosnell first starting on a renovation on a house then switching to refinishing the stairs at the Gitlaxt'aamiks Recreation Centre.

After the stair project is finished they will return to renovating the house.

Currie says that they both should be able to get all their required hours for the carpentry apprentices working for GVG.

He said that both Adrian and Dennis would be working on carpentry related work for the time that they spend with GVG.

Please join us in welcoming both Adrian and Dennis to their new jobs.

Si'aamhl wilsim.

# Bless 2 Bless

Damen Bell-Holter held a five day basketball camp for kids aged 6 – 12 years and 13 years and up. The basketball camp is called Bless 2 Bless and it finished on Sunday, April 24, 2016.

About 20 kids showed up for the first session on Wednesday and 11 for the older group.

Damen put them through basic fundamentals of basketball.

He also tells the kids that's it not just about basketball and that there's a lot more out there.

Too many kids get stuck in a community because they're scared to get out there and see the world.

Damen is an American Indian who grew up in a small community of about 300 people.

He is from Hydaburg Alaska he has played professional basketball with the Boston Celtics D league team when he first came out of school.

Last year he played with Istanbul in Turkey and this year is playing professional basketball with Finland.

In the off-season he runs this basketball camp for kids and young people.

Damen has played basketball in the All-Native Tournament for the Hydaburg seniors in 2008.

The Internet, TV and video games take up most of the youth today in small communities. Every community is like this, the kids are too distracted.

The youth don't understand the work ethic to make it in college or professional basketball.

Damen focusses on the fundamentals.

Everything is high speed or game speed. That's how you get better.

