

Mahla'asgum Saw'winsk



Wiihoon / August 2023 | Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government

K'ap haw'ahlkwahl dim dii luubayt t'ahlkwahl sii wineex.

...there were two children playing by the river. They were playing with salmon for their amusement. One child cut open the spine of the salmon and put burning sticks in to watch the salmon swim with smoke coming from his back. The second child cut open the side of the fish and placed a rock in the salmon to make fun of the way he swam sideways. An elder seen the children and said "Take care what you do, the salmon will curse you and creator will respond in kind." Just then the ground started to shake, smoke and fire could be seen at the top of what is now called "Tseax Cone". The people fled the area, some perished from the lava flow, others fled to higher ground as they watched a wonderous large supernatural being called Gwaxts'agat emerged to stop the lava. with his great wind. Days later the lava finally cooled and Gwaxts'agat returned to the mountains where he still remains.

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Dani & Lizzy Hip Hop Workshop

From their website: “Dani and Lizzy aspire to create music with a message that can help people heal and overcome life’s many obstacles. With song topics that address dealing with substance abuse (“FTW”), to tracks that explore the complexities of relationships (“My Love Will Never Die”), the twins see music as therapy – both for themselves, and for their listeners. In their own words, their goal is “to inspire and encourage people to do their best – survive and thrive.”

Dani & Lizzy along with their brother Emotionz, Dj Ted-D, and B-Boy Taiyo taught Gitlaxt’aamiks youth breakdancing, songwriting, mixing, beatmaking and graffiti art. Community members were encouraged to attend dinner with the artists and had an opportunity to meet them.



Taiyo introducing the youth to breakdancing



DJ Ted-D sharing his mixing skills with the youth



Haisla Elders Tour

Michelle Cross is the Interim Elders Coordinator for the Haisla Health Centre. She coordinated the Haisla Elder's tour of Gitlaxt'aamiks. The elders' first stop was the Gitlaxt'aamiks Interpretive Centre, where they learned about the history of this community. Eric Grandison and Fran Johnson lead the tour and were assisted by Dori Morven and Cynthia Johnson.

The elders' next stop was our community smokehouses where they were shown how our salmon and traditional food are processed. From there they travelled to the netloft and learned how nets are made. The last stop was our Elder' Centre where the Haisla Elders' relaxed and got ready for their trip back to Kitimat.

GVG is currently planning a trip to Kitimat for the Elders' of Gitlaxt'aamiks.



Sushi Making Course

Rick Mochizuki is a former sushi-chef from Japan and he traveled to Gitlaxt'aamiks to teach the smokehouse crew how to prepare salmon for sashimi and sushi. GVG offered a course to the public on (insert date here).

Course attendants were taught how to select and prepare the rice for sushi rolls.

Rick then the trainees how to make three types of sushi rolls: cucumber rolls, California rolls, and BC rolls.

Cucumber rolls are made with a sheet of nori paper (seaweed), sushi rice, a tiny bit of wasabi, and cucumbers. California rolls are made with sushi rice, nori, avocado, cucumber, mayo, and imitation crab. BC rolls are made like California rolls but have cooked salmon skin in bbq sauce instead of imitation crab.

Kids Play Day

The Gitlaxt'aamiks Rec Centre was host to many events for youth this August.

The Jr. Police Academy was held August 26th and had 15 participants.

Drone Training was offered from August 15th – 17th participants learned about drone safety and regulations. Each participant had the opportunity to practice flying a drone.

Kids Play day was held on August 23rd. There were inflatables, a dunk tank, and a tug-of-war contest



The Mankind Project

The very first Nisga'a New Warrior Training Site was completed August 21st 2023. The site is located in Nass Camp near Sga Sganis. The site includes a 40-foot shipping container that has been converted into office space, three tepees, a structure known as the Arbor, and a sweat-lodge. GVG plans on building a longhouse at the site in the future.

The site was developed with Multicultural Awareness in mind and is reflected in the construction of the three tepees which weren't traditionally utilized in the past. Another area that this is reflected in is the sweatlodge which combines elements of Nisga'a and Cree culture in its design.

The site hosted its' first New Warrior Training Adventure from August 25th – 27th and will host another NWTA in April 2024.



Left to Right: Orest Zwozdesky, Alvin Wright, Nicholas Crier, John Moore, Sheldon Hughes, Greville Nisyok, Anthony Nelson, Kohl Johnson, William Clayton, Roman Small, Rod Robinson, Gerald Robinson, Stirling Tait



New Warrior Training Adventure

Eight initiates attended the first New Warrior Training Adventure held on Nisga'a lands. The initiates were challenged physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually in their search for their place among men in the world.

The initiates explored their relationship to values such as accountability, authenticity, compassion, generosity, integrity, leadership, multicultural awareness, and respect.

From the MKP Website: "The ManKind Project has created a modern initiation for men. --The modern initiation is safe, non-shaming, and focused on the problems that face men in the 21st Century. We conduct an initiation because we believe it is absolutely necessary for a man to learn in an unequivocal way; what he is capable of, why he is here, and how to engage fully in his life."

SEPT 2023



Upcoming Events

Elder's Trip to Kitimat

Arrival of Totem Pole

School Starts Sept. 5

Pine Season Begins

Elder's Luau Sept. 15

Moose Draw Deadline Sept. 23rd



Treaty Trivia

What year was the first Land Committee established?

What year did it finally become legal "for Indians to raise money to advance land claims?"

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