

Mahla'asgum

Saw'winsk

Xsaak



GITLAXT'AAMIKS
GITMIDIHK: PEOPLE OF THE GRIZZLY

March
2025 EDITION



Junior All-Native Tournament 2025

From March 16th-21st I had the privilege of photographing JANT 2025 hosted in Kelowna by the Syilx Nation where 113 teams competed across the U17 Boys, U17 Girls, U13 Boys Gold & Silver divisions, U13 Girls Gold & Silver divisions, and the U10 division. I saw firsthand all the hard work the coaches, managers, chaperones put into making sure our teams make it to each game and home safely. I saw the drive and dedication our teams and the way they overcame adversity time and time again. These basketball games offer a vital space for these kids to connect and build a strong sense of belonging, through these games, these kids can really express who they are and what they're capable of. It's become clear to me that we need *more* spaces where our youth can build a community for themselves and to truly express themselves.

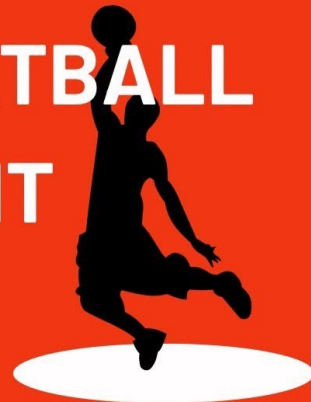
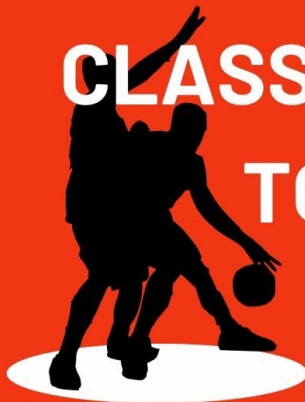
Written by: Stirling Tait, Communications Manager



Scan the QR code to
view more photos on
our website



GITMIDIK ANNUAL EASTER CLASSICS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



8 MENS & 8 LADIES

April 18-20, 2025

**ENTRY FEE
\$500/Team**

**CASH PRIZES
SHIRTS & TROPHY**

Ladies emt entry to:
gitmidiikladies@gmail.com

Gitlaxt'aamiks Recreation Cente

Men emt entry to:
Ymca20@outlook.com



Historical Documents

A folder containing documents, photos of Aiyansh and Gitlaxt'aamiks have been placed in Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Governments care at Hoobiye 2025. Ellis Ross and Miranda Ross presented the historical documents to Chief Councillor Calvin Morven. Many of the photos and documents have not been seen in our community and the decision has been made to include high-quality scans of the documents and photos in this newsletter and our Zenfolio Gallery. We are currently acquiring the necessary supplies and equipment to handle the documents and photos with the care that is required when handling aged paper. One document dates back to 1918 and contains an old spelling of the Nisga'a language. Once the documents are scanned and stored digitally the documents and photos will be stored physically at the Interpretive Centre.



Learning Story: Exploring Oolichans – A Traditional Food Practice

At first, the kids scrunched their noses and let out a chorus of “Ew!” as the smell of the oolichans hit them. It was a natural reaction but also a great teaching moment. We took time to talk about what oolichans mean to us: how they're not just a smelly little fish, but an important traditional food source and a part of who we are as Nisga'a people. Once we shared the “why” and showed them the technique, their mindset began to shift. Suddenly, everyone was involved, some cautiously, some all in. Every child was able to get at least three oolichans onto the stick by themselves. Some were determined to finish a whole stick on their own, and one child proudly managed to thread four sticks with around 20 oolichans on each! What was even more beautiful was the teamwork that naturally unfolded. For those who weren't quite ready to touch the oolichans, they still found a way to participate holding the sticks steady for their friends or passing them along with care. No one was left out, and everyone supported each other. There was so much curiosity and excitement: “This one has red eyes!” “Oops, I dropped it!” That led to another lesson, how we can just rinse them off with water and keep going. After threading each oolichan, they'd proudly hold up their sticks and show them off to their friends beaming, proud, and excited to be part of it all. We also got to see t'ibin flipper, and some of the kids were amazed when they learned it came from a sea lion. The learning carried on during the bus ride, filled with chatter about eating the oolichans, what they tasted like, and why we left them to dry. That opened up another conversation how we preserve our food and why that process is so important in our culture. And of course, lots of giggles filled the air when they saw the stick come out through the fish's mouth it was all part of the hands-on fun. What started with hesitation turned into a day full of laughter, pride, teamwork, and connection to our traditional ways.

Story submission by: Emma Robinson, Headstart Manager

Did you know?

In April 27th 1998, the Nisga'a Tribal Council met for the 41st Annual Convention in New Aiyansh at the Gitlaxt'aamiks Recreation Centre. It was at this time that four Simgigat called the Centre's name:

"Wilp Galts'aphl Git Midiik"



The four Simgigat were:

Laxgibuu: Sim'oogit Ksidiyaawaḱ - Gitlaxt'aamiks - Hubert McMillan

Gisk'aast: Sim'oogit Wii Laxha - Gingolx - Hubert Stevens

Laxsgiik: Sim'oogit Gilsen - Gitwinksihlkw - Ron Nyce

Ganada: Sim'oogit Axdii Will Luugooda - Laxgalts'ap - Bert McKay

APRIL 2025



**Social Assistance
Intake April 3rd-4th**



**Good Friday
April 18th (Stat)**



**NLG Executive
April 16th, 17th**



**Easter Monday
April 21st (Stat)**



**Council Meetings
April 14th-15th, 17th**



**Elder's Pension Run
April 28th**

TREATY TRIVIA

**ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO
WIN A \$50 GIFT CARD**

The Nisga'a Final Agreement grants the Nisga'a Nation ownership of approximately how many square kilometers of land within their traditional territory?

To submit your answer, please call (250) 633-3100 and ask for Stirling or you can e-mail it to stirling@peopleofthegrizzly.com



Call for Submissions

If you would like to submit a story please call (250)633-3100 or e-mail: Marianne.Guno@peopleofthegrizzly.com or Stirling@peopleofthegrizzly.com

Employment Opportunity

Position:	<u>Youth Worker</u>	Posting Date:	<u>March 25, 2025</u>
Employment Type:	<u>Full-Time</u>	Closing Date:	<u>April 8, 2025</u>

Scope of Work:

The Youth Worker reports to the Director of Community Relations.

Responsibilities:

- Develop and implement traditional and recreational opportunities for youth.
- Provide workshops and information services to Gitlaxt'aamiks Youth.
- Identify, develop, and offer support for Nisga'a culture and language workshops.
- Assist in the development of connections to other services and agencies as required by youth and their families.
- Assist in the development and delivery of teen programs in Gitlaxt'aamiks.
- Assist in the delivery of a traditional food preparation and preserving program for Gitlaxt'aamiks youth.
- Develop and co-ordinate youth projects that contribute to the life of the community such as visiting and helping elders, community clean-up, cultural activities and assisting in community events and fund-raising.
- Co-ordinate activities that enable youth to gain leadership skills in planning, communications, and budgeting through the Youth Council.
- Participate in research and planning activities that track performance objectives specific to the Gitlaxt'aamiks youth.
- Organize monthly field trips for youth.
- Attend training workshops, courses, or conferences where relevant to your duties.
- Keep informed of any policy that may affect your program.
- Submit a written report each month outlining activities and any new initiatives undertaken by the Gitlaxt'aamiks youth.
- Work closely with Youth Council

Qualifications:

- Minimum grade 12 and 2 years related experience or an equivalent combination of education, training, or work experience.
- Effective communication skills (oral & written).
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Good organizational skills
- Must have good facilitation & supervisory skills
- Must have computer skills
- Must have a valid BC Driver's license
- Criminal record checks are mandatory

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

MEMO

To: The Community of New Aiyansh
From: The GVG Community Relations Department
CC: Darlene Morgan, CAO
Date: January 30, 2025
RE: **Gitlaxt'aamiks Sport and Recreation Fee's**

Gitlaxt'aamiks Sport and Recreation Fee's are due at the beginning of every month. If you have not paid your fee for the month please do so before utilizing the facility.

Recreation Centre Fee's are due at the beginning of every month:

Month:	Youth & Gym:	Fitness Room:
January 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
February 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
March 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
April 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
May 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
June 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
July 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
August 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
September 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
October 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
November 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00
December 2025	\$5.00	\$10.00

Payment Methods:

- Cash paid directly to the Rec Staff
- Debit at the GVG Office

All users of the facility include: basketball teams, fitness room users and dance group.

T'ooyak̓siy̓ ñiin from:

Recreation Director: Chester Munroe

Youth Workers: Connie Johnson and Michelle LaBoucane