

# Mahla'asgum

# Saw'insk Miso'o



GITLAXT'AAMIKS  
GITMIDIJK: PEOPLE OF THE GRIZZLY

**JUNE 2025  
EDITION**



## National Indigenous Peoples Day 2025

In New Aiyansh, BC on June 20, 2025 the Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government hosted their annual National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration. A total of 14 events, 5 draws, 4 contests, 6 children's contests and a BBQ food sale were hosted within the celebration bringing in a total of \$13,000.00+ that was donated to the Gitlaxt'aamiks Elders. This year's event theme was "Celebration 25 Years of the Nisga'a Treaty: Building a Legacy" and the parade theme was 'Disney is coming to town.' There was 143+ GVG staff volunteers who coordinated, organized, cooked, conducted set-up and take-down to make this annual event a success. We want to thank our sponsors and spectators who helped make our event prosperous.



Scan the QR code to see more pictures like this in our online gallery



## NESS Learning Feast

From Kindergarten through Grade 12, students take part in the planning, preparation, and serving of a traditional feast, working side by side with Elders, parents, and local Knowledge Keepers. On the day of the feast, the school gym is alive with the sights, sounds, and scents of a true Nisga'a gathering. Students wear regalia, drums and songs echo through the hall, and long tables are lined with carefully prepared traditional foods, lovingly served by the students themselves. The Elders share teachings and stories, passing on wisdom to the younger generations, while guests from across the community come together to enjoy the meal and celebrate the children's efforts. The NESS Learning Feast is a living expression of Nisga'a culture and a testament to the power of education grounded in identity and belonging. It reinforces intergenerational bonds, honours the contributions of Elders, and instills in students a deep sense of responsibility to carry forward the traditions of their ancestors with respect and authenticity.



## WWNI/UNBC Convocation 2025

On June 2, 2025 in Gitwinksihlkw, BC at the WWNI/UNBC Convocation there were 11 graduates who received an array of certificates, diplomas and degree's focusing in First Nations Studies, Education and Highschool Dogwood. There were seven graduates from New Aiyansh. We wish to extend our congratulations to the WWNI/UNBC Graduates of 2025. All your hard work, sacrifice and dedication paid off. We recognize and commend the accomplishments of a higher education. Ax'akhlidiit (They succeeded). Si'aamhl wilin! (continue to do well).



## NESS Graduation 2025

June 20, 2025 – New Aiyansh, BC – There were 19 graduates who celebrated their accomplishments and earned their Highschool Dogwood Diplomas at the Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School Graduation. A total of six NESS Graduates were from New Aiyansh. We want to take this opportunity to congratulate the NESS Grads in celebrating one of many milestone achievements. Wishing each of you the best of luck in your future endeavors. Nidii hawhl ganwilaak'ils (Education never stops). Hak'yo'om ayuuk (Believe in yourself).



## LGMA President's Awarded to Darlene Morgan

Since being appointed CAO in 2004, Darlene Morgan has been at the forefront of transforming the Nisga'a Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks into a thriving, self-governing community under the Nisga'a Final Agreement. She spearheaded capacity-building initiatives, empowering her community to fully exercise its treaty rights and strengthen local governance. Throughout her career, she has championed staff development, encouraging participation in LGMA-accredited programs like MATI and PADM, with nearly 30 office members achieving certification under her mentorship. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Darlene's leadership shone as she developed and implemented a local stimulus plan to sustain her community through unprecedented challenges—an achievement that earned her the Professional Service Award – Leadership from LGMA in 2022. She was also recognized with the Distinguished Member Award in 2017. Most recently, she received the 2025 LGMA Member Awards: Life Membership, President's Award, that honors that celebrate her vision, innovation, and unwavering commitment to excellence in local government.



## Welcome To Our New Youth Worker

My name is Mercedes Morven. I am of the Ganada tribe.

I am 21 years old, I was born May 5th, 2004, in Terrace. I am the daughter of Rachael Robinson and Orion Morven. I am a middle child. I have three siblings.

I was raised in New Aiyansh and Terrace.

I was taught to show kindness to others and be passionate about what I believe in.

I was raised with a supportive family who taught me all the things I know today. I am a very grateful human to have such a big and loving family.

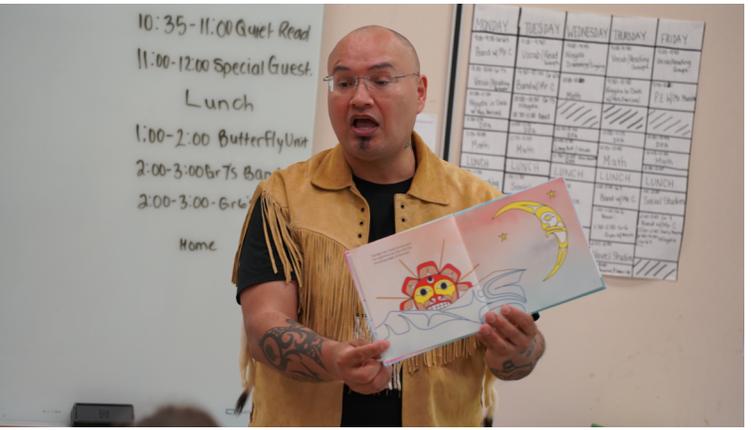
I love learning new things. I love being creative, and I am proud to be Nisga'a.

## Headstart & Nursery Celebration Of Growth

June 26th, 2025, our Headstart and Nursery programs came together for a heartwarming celebration of growth and milestones. Families joined us for a joyful afternoon, sharing a delicious lunch and plenty of smiles as we reflected on the children's journeys. Laughter and pride filled the room as parents, grandparents, and siblings captured precious moments with photos and hugs. We are so proud of each child's achievements, and grateful to all the families and staff who nurture their potential every day. Congratulations to our Headstart and Nursery students — you continue to inspire us with your curiosity and growth!



*Scan the QR code to see more pictures like this in our online gallery*



## Grandmother Mouse Reading

Grandmother Mouse is a beautifully written children’s book that follows the enchanting journey of a wise, caring mouse who helps her family and her community through kindness, resilience, and a touch of quiet magic. Perfect for bedtime reading, this tale explores themes of family, tradition, and the strength found in even the smallest creatures.

Peter Thomas McKay, known for his lyrical prose and ability to craft memorable characters, delivers yet another timeless story that resonates with readers of all ages.

## Important Dates

# July 2025



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



**Farmers Market July 13th and July 27th**



**Council Meetings July 21st, 22nd, & July 31st**



**WSN July 28th-30th**



**NLG Executive July 23rd-25th**



**Elder’s Pension Run July 30th**

## TREATY TRIVIA

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

✓ In what year did the Nisga’a Final Agreement — the first modern treaty in British Columbia — officially come into effect? a) 1998 b) 2000 c) 2002 d) 2004

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



# NISGA'A ELECTIONS OFFICE

An Independent Office of Nisga'a Lisims Government  
4723 Gosnell Crescent  
PO Box 223  
New Aiyansh, BC  
VOJ 1A0

Telephone: 250 633-2715  
Toll Free: 1-866-633-2715  
Fax: 250-633-2719  
E-mail: [jean.clayton@nisgaaelections.ca](mailto:jean.clayton@nisgaaelections.ca)

*Notice in Accordance with Nisga'a Law*

## NOTICE OF GITLAXT'AAMIKS VILLAGE GOVERNMENT BY ELECTION

In accordance with the *Nisga'a Elections Act*, the general voting day for the Nisga'a Village of New Aiyansh by election will be

**Monday, September 29, 2025**

The following elected office will be filled in this by election:

- Village Councillor for the Nisga'a Village Government of Gitlaxt'aamiks - 1(ONE) to be elected

Nisga'a citizens who are 18 years of age or older on September 29, 2025 are eligible to vote in the above election. Please ensure that your voter information is current.

For more information contact:

Jean Clayton, Nisga'a Elections Officer  
Telephone: 250-633-2715  
Email: [jean.clayton@nisgaaelections.ca](mailto:jean.clayton@nisgaaelections.ca)

Dated: June 30, 2025



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## NOTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH NISGA'A LAW

### Notice of Nomination Period For the September 29, 2025 Village of New Aiyansh By Election

Take note that the nomination period for the New Aiyansh by election

- **begins at 9:00 AM on July 15, 2025; and**
- **closes at 5:00 PM on July 28, 2025**

During the nomination period, nominations may be made and filed with the Nisga'a Elections Officer for the **Nisga'a Village of New Aiyansh Councillor**.

Nomination packages will be available at:

Nisga'a Elections Office 4723 Gosnell Crescent, PO Box 223 New Aiyansh BC	Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government 5200 Skateen Avenue New Aiyansh BC
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- ✓ Nominees for the Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government Councillor must ordinarily reside in the applicable area.

Completed nomination packages can be hand delivered, sent via email or fax (with originals to follow in the mail) to the Nisga'a Elections office before 5:00 PM on July 28, 2025.

Please ensure that your nomination package contains all of the following:

- The nomination and acceptance forms
- A current criminal record check
- Payment of the nomination deposit of \$100.00 cash, money order or a certified cheque payable to the Nisga'a Nation
- Written certification from the Nisga'a Lisims Government Chief Financial Officer that the name of the person nominated was not included on the register of prescribed debts as of the date of nomination

For more information please contact:

Jean Clayton, Nisga'a Elections Officer  
Telephone: 250-633-2715  
Email: [jean.clayton@nisgaaelections.ca](mailto:jean.clayton@nisgaaelections.ca)

Dated: June 30, 2025

# GATHERING OUR STRENGTH CANOE JOURNEY SIGN UP 2025!

July 25 – August 1st  
Kitimaat – Prince Rupert

It's that time of year again! The canoe journey is starting and we're looking for sign-ups!

13 and Under – Need a parent/ Guardian

14 and Up – Sign up with Mercedes at the Rec centre 😊

[Mercedes@peopleofthegrizzly.com](mailto:Mercedes@peopleofthegrizzly.com)



## **Gitlaxt'aamiks Farmers Market**

**July 13th, 2025**

**10:00AM-3:00PM**

**9:00AM open for set up**

Vendor space: \$20.00

1 Table to be provided.

The extra table is 5.00

To Reserve your table, Contact 250-633-3100 or 1-877-588-2388

Ask for Garrett Dyer or complete the online Farmers Market application on our Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government at this QR Code:





## Sii T'ax Development Corporation

Box 238 5221 Skateen Ave. New Aiyansh, BC V0J 1A0 Phone: 250-633-2914 Fax: 250-633-2917

### **Call-Out: Commercial Fishers – Nisga'a Inland Commercial Fishery**

**Location:** Nisga'a Village of New Aiyansh

**Department:** Nisga'a Treaty Fisheries

**Program:** Inland Commercial Fisheries – 2025 Season

#### **Applications now open for Commercial Fishing Vessels in New Aiyansh**

The Nisga'a Fisheries Department is seeking qualified commercial fishers to participate in the 2025 Inland Commercial Salmon Fishery in accordance with the Nisga'a Final Agreement and Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) regulations.

#### **Who Can Apply**

- Nisga'a citizens with a valid Nisga'a Commercial Fishery Card
- Vessel owners with boats 18 feet or longer
- Boat owner and deckhands to be 16 years of age or older
- Vessels and gear must meet both Nisga'a Treaty and DFO commercial fishing standards

#### **Requirements**

##### **1. Gear and Vessel Compliance**

- Vessels must be 18 feet or longer
- Must use properly maintained and marked fishing gear

- Nets must meet DFO-approved mesh size regulations to reduce bycatch
- Gear must display required vessel ID markings
- Must have proper insulated totes with ice for fish handling

## **2. Safety Equipment (Required by DFO)**

- Transport Canada-approved PFDs (Personal Flotation Devices) – one per person
- Functioning VHF marine radio
- Navigation lights, distress signals (flares), and sound-signaling device (whistle or horn)
- Properly equipped fire extinguisher and anchor system
- Fully operational bilge pump or bailing device
- First aid kit (marine standard)
- Spare fuel and paddles for emergencies

## **3. Compliance with Nisga'a Regulations**

- Must comply with Nisga'a Fisheries and Wildlife Act and annual fishing plan
- Must follow rules on:
  - Harvest reporting
  - Catch limits
  - Conservation measures
- All fishing activity is subject to inspection by Nisga'a Fisheries Enforcement Officers
- All fish for sale must be harvested under approved commercial licenses

## How to Apply

Interested fishers are encouraged to sign up in person at the Nisga'a Fisheries Office in New Aiyansh. Application forms and further information will be available on-site.

Please find the address and phone number below:

**P.O. Box 228, Nass St, Aiyansh, BC V0J 1A0**  
**(250) 633-2617**

You may also apply by writing a letter or ask questions by contacting:

**Bertram Mercer**  
**Business Manager, Sii T'ax Development Corporation**  
**bert@siitax.com**  
**(250) 892-0301**

For more information on Nisga'a Fisheries Regulations/Information please visit <https://www.nisgaanation.ca/government/natural-resources/fisheries-faqs/> and for Department of Fisheries and Oceans regulations please visit <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/sdc-cps/index-eng.html>

## NOTE:

### Note on Payment Schedule

If you are fishing two days per week, please note that payment will not be issued by the immediate next Friday. Instead, you can expect payment by the **following Thursday**. This allows time for processing and verification. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

### Payment Method – EFT Required

All fishers must provide valid **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)** information for payment. Please note: EFT payments typically take **3–4 business days** to process through banking institutions. Ensure your details are accurate to avoid delays.