

Mahla'asgum

Saw'insk Yansa'alt



GITLA'XT'AAMIKS
GITMIDIK: PEOPLE OF THE GRIZZLY

MAY 2025
EDITION



Stimulus Program 2025

On May 5, 2025, a total of 62 people were hired onto the Stimulus Program 2025 for a 6-month term employment. The Stimulus Program provides hands-on work experience within community-based projects. The intent of this work program to provide valuable community-based work experience. The goal for the program participants is to either further education or pursue permanent employment after the program is complete. There are seven Stimulus Projects that are currently in operation: Greenhouse Project, Elders Fencing and Painting, Brushing and Weeding, Fishermen's Project, Post-Secondary Internship, Mankind Project and Carpenter Helper. There are continuing studies training opportunities within the program and certificates are obtained by the participants who complete successfully. en Ursula Azak, GVG Employment Coordinator, NESS and UAPICBC.



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Nita Morven's Retirement Dinner

On May 6, 2025, the Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government proudly hosted a heartfelt Retirement Celebration in honour of Nita Morven, recognizing her remarkable 41 years of dedicated service to the Nisga'a Nation. The gathering took place in the community of New Aiyansh and was a warm and emotional occasion, drawing together a wide circle of Nita's family, friends, former colleagues, and community members. The celebration was also attended by representatives from Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government and Nisga'a Lisims Government, reflecting the broad and lasting impact Nita has had across multiple levels of Nisga'a governance and cultural life. Nita's recent role as Ayuukhl Nisga'a Cultural Research Analyst was pivotal within the Ayuukhl Nisga'a Department. In this capacity, she played a vital role in the preservation, documentation, and revitalization of Nisga'a laws, traditions, and oral histories. Her work helped ensure that the Ayuukhl Nisga'a – the foundation of Nisga'a cultural identity and governance – continues to guide future generations with strength and clarity. Throughout her career, Nita Morven has been a steward of Nisga'a knowledge and a powerful example of service rooted in cultural integrity and respect.



Newmont Barbeque Dinner

On May 8, 2025, Newmont hosted their 2nd Annual Community BBQ in New Aiyansh. The event was well attended by over 200 community members. The panel consisted of Nisga'a Newmont employees including New Aiyansh's very own Arthur 'Sonny' Johnson Jr. and Jasmine Robinson who recalled starting out as a GVG Stimulus Program participant. The success stories recounted of the Nisga'a Newmont employee was inspiring for many of the community members who observed the community BBQ. Information booklets, pamphlets, photobooth with work gear, presentations, and door prizes to name a few were the highlights of the event.



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Beading and Language Workshop

In partnership with New Relationship Trust and the GVG Community Relations Department a Beading and Cultural Workshop took place in the New Aiyansh Recreation Centre Youth Room from May 7-8, 2025. The beading workshops were hosted for students and young adults who were interested in learning to bead that was facilitated by a local beader Megan Munroe. Artists provided beading kits to participants to work with as they facilitated the workshop. Light lunches were provided both days. There was also a Nisga'a Language lesson facilitated by Sigidimnak' Ts'aa Gabin - Verna Williams during the workshop which was an integral part of the cultural experience. Door Prizes were awarded at the end of the workshop. A video will be show cased to the general public once the production is finalized and completed.



Nisga'a Day 2025

On May 9, 2025, Nisga'a Lisims Government hosted a 25th anniversary of the Nisga'a Final Agreement (Nisga'a Treaty). "Celebrating 25 years of our journey of Self-Government and Self-Economic reliance" was the theme of the event. The agenda had speakers from the NLG Executive and a Saskatchewan Cabinet Minister. The Nisga'a Treaty came into effect on May 11, 2000, and is the first modern day treaty in British Columbia. May 11, 2025, marked 25 years of the Nisga'a Treaty's effective date. The Nisga'a Treaty sets out the rights and interests of the Nisga'a Nation and its citizens, and the responsibilities of the Nisga'a Nation and its treaty partners. A landmark in the relationship between the parties, the Nisga'a Treaty marked the end of a 113-year journey and the first steps toward a brighter future in a new direction. It is the first treaty in British Columbia to provide constitutional certainty in respect of an Indigenous people's Section 35 right to self-government.



Gin'am Wineex Grand Opening

Gitwinksihlkw, BC – May 12, 2025, the Salvation Army Gin'am Wineex hosted their Grand Opening. The 'itkw' (naming) ceremony was completed by simgigat and sigidimhanak' from the four Nisga'a villages. There was a cutting of a cedar strip to represent the grand opening with representatives from the Salvation Army Corp., simgigat and sigidimhanak. Jinop was distributed to the witnesses. A banquet dinner was held and speakers from the Nisga'a Villages provided speeches of recognition including from Darlene Morgan, CAO and Earl Munroe, Director of Public Works. Damien and Erica Azak coordinated quite the event and continue to uphold the standard of the Gin'am Wineex Salvation Army within Gitwinksihlkw.



Post-Secondary Education Assistance Program

At Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School (NESS) on May 14, 2025, the GVG Education Department facilitated an Information Session to learn about the application process and more on the Nisga'a Post-Secondary Education Assistance Program (NPSEAP) to the Grades 10-12 students. This is an annual information session hosted specifically for graduating high school students who are pursuing a post-secondary education in University, College or Trades. The agenda provided a welcome address from Camellia Swift, Education Administrator, a NPSEAP Policy Presentation from Monica Morven, Post-Secondary Counselor and Question/Answer Period with the students. Refreshments were provided to the information session 35+ student participants



Victoria Day Soccer Tournament in Kitwanga

From May 16–18, the annual Victoria Day Weekend Soccer Tournament was held in Kitwanga, BC, bringing together teams from across the region for a weekend of competition, community, and sport. The Nisga'a Nation was proudly represented by four teams: Nisga'a United (Ladies), Nisga'a Braves (Men), and the Nisga'a Hawks (U7 and U12). This was my first time attending the event, and I was asked to cover it just a week prior. Fortunately, I was able to find a place to stay in Kitwanga and experience the tournament firsthand. What stood out immediately was the scale of the event—multiple soccer fields were active at once to accommodate the various divisions, and there was even a nearby softball tournament taking place at the same time, adding to the vibrant atmosphere. While our men's and ladies' teams didn't place highly in the final standings, they demonstrated significant talent and determination. It was especially encouraging to see the younger players on the U7 and U12 Nisga'a Hawks teams showcase their skills and sportsmanship. The tournament served as a powerful reminder of the importance of investing in diverse athletic opportunities for youth, not just for recreation but for community pride and future development.

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



DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE LIFE'S CURRENT IS PULLING YOU UNDER? OVERWHELMED BY THE RAPIDS OF RESPONSIBILITY? STRUGGLING JUST TO KEEP YOUR HEAD ABOVE WATER?



**AGAINST THE CURRENT,
WE FIND STRENGTH**

The Nisga'a
NEW WARRIOR
TRAINING ADVENTURE®



gitlaxt'aamiks
GITMIDIHK: PEOPLE OF THE GRIZZLY

REGISTRATION FEE: \$850

(FULLY COVERED BY GITLAXT'AAMIKS VILLAGE GOVERNMENT)

FOR MEN AGED 18+ SEPTEMBER 5TH-6TH 2025

FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, CONTACT NOAH GUNO OR CALVIN MORVEN

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