

# Mahla'asgum

# Saw'insk

Xsaak

MARCH EDITION



## Nisga'a Chiefs Recognized as Most Inspirational at Provincial Championships

For the first time in twenty years, the Nisga'a Elementary Secondary School senior boys basketball team qualified for the Single A Provincial Championships in Langley. The last time a team from the Nass Valley reached this level of competition was in 2006. The Chiefs, a roster featuring players from Gingolx, New Aiyansh, Laxgalts'ap, and Gitwinksihlkw, earned their spot in the tournament following a one-point overtime victory in the qualifying rounds. Representing the entire Nisga'a Nation, the team traveled to the Langley Events Centre to compete against sixteen of the top-ranked teams in British Columbia. Throughout the tournament held from March 4 to March 7, 2026, the Chiefs demonstrated significant resilience on the court.

At the conclusion of the championships, the Nisga'a Chiefs were honored with the Most Inspirational Team award. This recognition highlights the sportsmanship and dedication the players showed while representing their home communities on the provincial stage. Athletic Director Zac Munroe noted that the experience of competing at this level "moves mountains" for young athletes within the school and the Nation. Many members of the team continued their season by participating in the Junior All-Native Basketball tournament the following week.



## Nisga'a Jr. Girls Sweep Division to take Northwest Zone Championship

The Nisga'a Single A Girls have finished their division play with a perfect 7-0 record. This undefeated run is a major achievement for the players and the coaching staff, marking a period of consistent hard work and team chemistry.

Throughout the seven-game stretch, the team relied on a strong transition defense and a balanced scoring attack. Every player on the roster contributed to this sweep, showing great stamina and mental toughness during a demanding tournament schedule.

This 7-0 result is a significant milestone for our basketball program. It sets a high standard for our younger athletes and provides the team with a lot of confidence as they move into the next round of regional play.

The community is incredibly proud of the grit and sportsmanship these young women displayed on the court. Congratulations to the players, the coaches, and the families who supported them throughout this successful division run.



## Nisga'a Language and Culture Act

Nisga'a Lisims Government has released Draft Version 2.0 of the Wilp Si'Ayuukhl Nisga'a Language and Culture Act. This landmark legislation formally establishes a dedicated authority to protect, revitalize, and promote lip algaxam' (the Nisga'a language) and lip wilaa loom' (the Nisga'a way of life).

The Act centers on the creation of the Nisga'a Language and Culture Authority (NLCA). This body will report to Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a and operate under the leadership of an appointed director. To ensure broad representation across the Nation, the NLCA Board will include representatives from the Council of Elders, all four Nisga'a Villages, the three Urban Local Areas, Wilp Wilxo'oskwhl Nisga'a Institute, School District #92, the Nisga'a Valley Health Authority, and the Youth Council.

The Authority's work involves assessing the health of the language, creating recordings of fluent speakers, and developing educational materials. The NLCA will also support immersion programs and pursue the return of Nisga'a Belongings currently held in museum collections worldwide.

Under the Act, a Vetting Committee of highly fluent speakers will work to standardize lip algaxam' and set certification standards for translators and instructors. Additionally, each Nisga'a Institution will be required to develop a Language Plan. The NLCA will also manage policies for the Ayuukhl Nisga'a Archives and the Nisga'a Museum. Through annual reports to Wilp Si'ayuukhl Nisga'a, the Nation will remain informed of the progress made toward cultural self-determination.



## Reviving the Longhouse in Nisga'a

### The Vision

- To have a longhouse in each village that acts as a gathering place for ceremony, wellness, and healing (from cradle to grave)
- To empower the Simgigat ganhl Sigidim-haanak as the authority of their Wilp to identify and practice traditional responses to conflict
- To include Nisga'a laws and practices within the Canadian justice system
- To have a Nation where everyone plays a role in promoting the safety of all Nisga'a citizens through knowledge and understanding of Nisga'a laws and traditions



## The Longhouse Revival Initiative

In March 2026, Nisga'a Lisims Government presented a vision to communities across the Nass Valley regarding the revival of the Longhouse. This initiative seeks to establish the Longhouse as a living center for ceremony, wellness, and healing for all Nisga'a citizens.

The Nisga'a Longhouse Revival Initiative is grounded in traditional laws, including Lip Wilaa Loom', Ayuukhl Nisga'a, Yuuhlimkaskw, and the principle of Sayt K'il'im Coot (One Heart, One Path, One Nation). The vision includes placing a longhouse in each village to serve as a gathering place for citizens throughout their lives. A central goal of this work is to restore the Simgigat ganhl Sigidim-haanak' (Chiefs and Matriarchs) to their traditional authority within their Wilp.

This initiative addresses the challenges Nisga'a citizens face within external legal systems. While Indigenous people make up 6% of the BC adult population, they account for 36% of those in provincial custody. Furthermore, over 93% are released without a formal discharge plan. The Longhouse Revival offers a path rooted in Nisga'a identity to support these individuals and their families.

The BC First Nations Justice Council has provided support for this work. In October 2024, the Nisga'a Nation received \$168,000 through the Community-Based Justice Fund to advance these efforts. This funding supports Track 2 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, which focuses on restoring First Nations legal traditions.

The initiative is moving through a series of defined phases. Following initial approval and consultations with Chiefs, Matriarchs, the RCMP, and the Crown, the process has moved into community engagement. The March 2026 gatherings provided an opportunity for village feedback as the Nation works toward securing the funding required to fully realize this reclamation.



## Honoring the Legacy of Edmond Isaac Wright

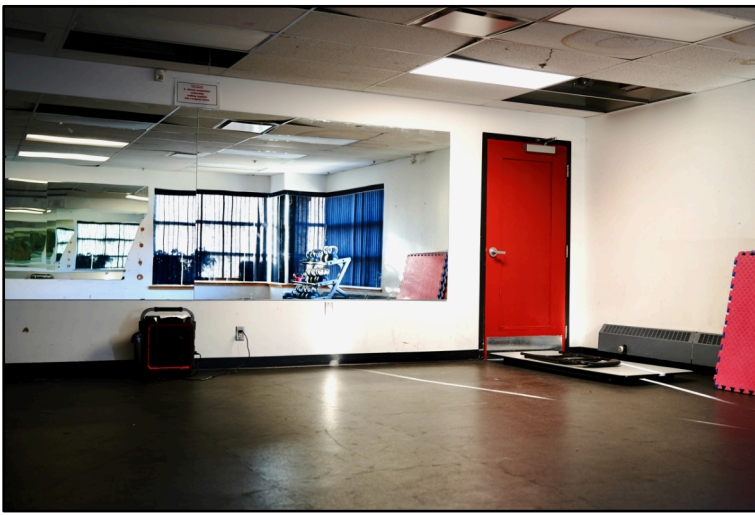
Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government recognizes the lifelong contributions of Edmond Isaac Wright (Kamluugidis), a hereditary chief and dedicated public servant who passed away after fifty years of service to the Nisga'a Nation. Born in Gitlaxt'aamiks in 1945, Mr. Wright was groomed for leadership from a young age by his grandmother, Emma Wright, who taught him the landmarks, boundaries, and oral history of the Nass Valley.

Mr. Wright's professional career began in 1970 when he was appointed Band Manager for New Aiyansh. Despite having no prior office experience at the time, he became an expert on the Indian Act and a prominent advocate for First Nations at the Department of Indian Affairs (DIA) table. He served as Executive Director for the Nisga'a Village of New Aiyansh for 28 years while simultaneously serving as Secretary/Treasurer for the Nisga'a Tribal Council.

A central figure in the pursuit of the "Land Question," Mr. Wright participated in every stage of the Nisga'a Treaty negotiations. His efforts culminated in the signing of the Nisga'a Final Agreement on May 11, 2000—the first modern-day treaty in Canada. Following the treaty's effective date, he served an additional 12 years as Secretary/Treasurer for the Nisga'a Lisims Government and 8 years as a Councillor for the Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government.

Beyond his political achievements, Mr. Wright was deeply committed to education and community wellness. He served as a Trustee for School District No. 92 (Nisga'a), President of CFNR, and the Diocesan Registrar for the Diocese of Caledonia. His contributions were recognized through numerous honors, including the BC Community Achievement Award and the Man of Distinction Award from the Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government.

Mr. Wright is remembered by his wife of 58 years, Millicent, as well as his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He leaves behind a legacy defined by his belief in the value of hard work, his meticulous dedication to his people, and his role in securing financial stability and autonomy for the Nisga'a Nation.



## Fitness Room & Class Schedule

### Weekly Weight Room and Mirror Room Schedule (7:15 PM Daily)

**Monday:** Strength Training (Kettlebells)

**Tuesday:** EMOM – Strength & Conditioning (Barbell/Dumbbell) – *Fitness Weight Room*

**Wednesday:** Stretch and Mobility – *Mirror Fitness Room*

**Thursday:** TABATA 40/20 Dumbbell Complex

**Friday:** HIIT Body Weight (Body Attack) – *Mirror Fitness Room*

**Monthly Gym Fees:** Please remember that fees are due at the beginning of each month.

- **Adult Rate:** \$10.00
- **Youth Rate:** \$5.00

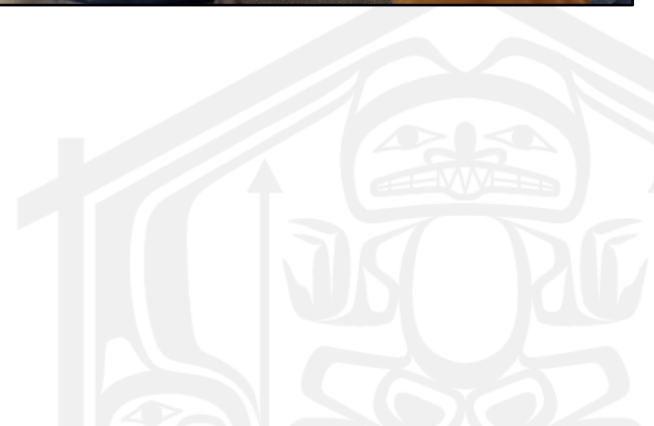


## Wildfire Training Opportunity

Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government conducted a series of wildfire training sessions from March 23, 2026, to March 31, 2026. Daily classes began at 08:30 a.m. and concluded at approximately 16:00 (4 p.m.) at the auditorium located at 4628 Morven St. New Aiyansh BC.

The program provided all necessary PPE and equipment for field deliveries.

Participants completed the following classes: S100/S185, S100 Field Delivery, Power Saw Operator, S211 Fire Environment, S212 Communications, S213 Heavy Equipment, S235 Ignition Operations, S230 Intro to Supervision, S241 Fire Assessment, ICS100, and ICS 200.





## U17 Boys Division Gitmidiik Lightning Results

- March 16: NCN ʔātuus 79, Gitmidiik Lightning 73
- March 16: Gitmidiik Lightning 67, Ahousaht Eagles 53
- March 17: Gitmidiik Lightning 52, Kispo Magic 51
- March 18: Gitxsan Torchmen 80, Gitmidiik Lightning 30



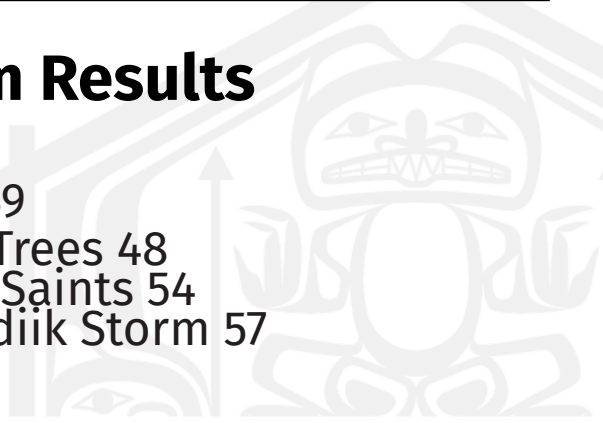
## U17 Girls Division Gitmidiik Thunder Results

- March 16: Gitmidiik Thunder 91, Nootka Rebels 8
- March 16: Gitmidiik Thunder 95, Ahousaht Storm 14
- March 17: Tla-o-qui-aht West Coast 72, Gitmidiik Thunder 31
- March 18: Gitmidiik Thunder 76, Daughters of Old Massett 24
- March 18: Gitxsan Junior Mystics 51, Gitmidiik Thunder 28



## U17 Boys Division Gitmidiik Storm Results

- March 16: Nunanta 73, Gitmidiik Storm 49
- March 16: Gitmidiik Storm 78, Nak'azdli Trees 48
- March 17: Gitmidiik Storm 70, Skidegate Saints 54
- March 18: Old Massett Raiders 75, Gitmidiik Storm 57





## U13 Boys Silver Division Gitmidiik Warriors Results

- March 16: Tlaga Gaw Tlaas Raiders 58, Gitmidiik Warriors 45
- March 16: Gitmidiik Warriors 63, Nak'azdli Wolves 10
- March 17: Wina 58, Gitmidiik Warriors 35
- March 17: Gitmidiik Warriors 36, YFN Ravens 31
- March 18: Tl'kemchEEn Warriors 66, Gitmidiik Warriors 28



## U13 Girls Silver Division Sonics Results

- March 16: Maaqtusiis Suns 58, New Aiyansh Sonics 20
- March 16: Kaien Island Riptide 36, New Aiyansh Sonics 32
- March 17: Gitxaat̓a Warriors 46, New Aiyansh Sonics 16
- March 17: W̱SÁNEĆ QELAXEN 34, New Aiyansh Sonics 6
- March 18: Ānspayaxw Royals 33, New Aiyansh Sonics 27



## U10 Co-Ed Nisga'a Daxgat Results

- March 17: Nisga'a Daxgat 20, Gitxsan Baby Mystics 19
- March 18: Lil'wat Cubs A 31, Nisga'a Daxgat 16
- March 19: Old Massett Raiders 30, Nisga'a Daxgat 9

**GVG Zenfolio Gallery**



*Scan the QR code to view  
more photos from our  
galleries*



# Mm̓aal

# APR 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			01	02	03	04
			NLG Executive Meeting	NLG Executive Meeting	Good Friday	
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
Easter Sunday	Easter Monday					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Committee of the Whole Day 1	Committee of the Whole Day 2		Regular Council Meeting		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Administrative Professionals Day			
26	27	28	29	30		



www.gitlaxtaamiks.com

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# Interior Heavy Equipment Operator School Training Opportunity

**Date:** April 13,2026

**Location:** 5126 Skateen Ave, New Aiyansh, B.C.

**Time:** 8:00 a.m.

This is a 12 week training session, must be committed to full 12 weeks.

Excavator – 100 hours

Rock Truck – 25 hours

Loader – 25 hours

Dozer - 25 hours

Grader - 25 hours

Skidsteer – 25 hours

Gitmidiik Group has an opening for **10 students** for Heavy Equipment training.

Please call 250-633-3113 to add your name to the list.

James Wright  
Equipment Manager

