WEI WAI KUM ćəkałali (news)

January 30 - February 5 2025

weiwaikum.ca | 250-286-6949

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Hello, and Happy New Year!

I hope your 2025 has started with good health and happiness. The sunny days have certainly made winter feel a little brighter!

December was a wonderful month for the **Community Services team**. We hosted Christmas dinners in Vancouver and Nanaimo for away-from-home members, joined by Chief and Council. It was great to connect with friends and family, and we'd love your feedback as we plan for December 2025!

Our team is growing! **Jazmine McCrimmon-Cook** has been supporting families and youth as the Designated Band Representative, and **Riley Faul** has joined as our Community Services Assistant, working alongside Tayte Latimer in recreation activities and Colleen Dick with elders' programs. If you haven't met Riley yet, you will soon!

A highlight of 2024 was the **Traditional Food Harvest program**, where 23 participants harvested berries, and seafood. 10 Possession and Acquisition Licenses (PAL) were obtained and participants had the opportunity to hunt for elk and deer. We hope to continue this in 2025 with new mentoring opportunities.

With our expanded team, I'm focusing more planning programs related to **First Nations Representative Services, Prevention Services delivery**, and **Language and culture.**

Your input is valuable as we develop policies and programs that meet community needs.

Gilakas'la,

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We're excited to restart our DEPARTMENT UPDATES for the newsletter!



To kick things off, we have Deanna Sheers sharing news from her Department.

Stay tuned for more updates moving forward.

STAFF DIRECTORY

ADMINISTRATION

Chris Roberts - Elected Chief Councillor chrisroberts@weiwaikum.ca

Chief Administrative Officer VACANT
Human Resource Manager VACANT

Rikki Brown - Administrative Assistant rikkibrown@weiwaikum.ca

Christine Smith - Facilities Manager/IRA/Membership Clerk christinesmith@weiwaikum.ca

Jessica Dean - Receptionist <u>reception@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Tasia Dick - Administrative Assistant tasiadick@weiwaikum.ca

Erica Haunch - Lands Manager <u>ericahaunch@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Patricia Romanciwicz - Housing Manager housing@weiwaikum.ca

Shelly Haunch - Education Manager <u>education@weiwaikum.ca</u>

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Deanna Sheers - Community Services Manager deannasheers@weiwaikum.ca

Jazmine McCrimmon-Cook - Community Support Worker <u>jazminemc@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Tayte Latimer - Recreation Worker <u>recreation@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Colleen Dick - Elders Worker <u>colleendick@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Nicole Dumont - Social Development Worker <u>nicoledumont@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Riley Faul- Community Services Assistant rileyfaul@weiwaikum.ca

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Cam Salisbury - Economic Development Officer camsalisbury@weiwaikum.ca

FINANCE

Moe Imran - Chief Financial Officer <u>moeimran@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Priscilla Bruce - Bookkeeper/Accounts Payable <u>priscillabruce@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Muhammad 'Haris' - Accounts Receivable/Payroll Clerk haris@weiwaikum.ca

KWANWATSI CHILD CARE & PRESCHOOL

Kaitlyn Lagos - *Interim* Kwanwatsi Manager <u>kaitlynlagos@weiwaikum.ca</u>

NATURAL RESOURCES

Christine Roberts - Cultural Heritage Coordinator archaeology@weiwaikum.ca

Erin Latham - Natural Resource Manager <u>erinlatham@weiwaikum.ca</u>

Danny Hurry - Guardian Watchman Coordinator <u>danielhurry@weiwaikum.ca</u>

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Mark Haunch - Public Works Manager markhaunch@weiwaikum.ca

Jim Henderson - Netloft Manager jimhenderson@weiwaikum.ca

TREATY

Courtney Fidler - Treaty Administrative Officer <u>courtneyfidler@weiwaikum.ca</u>



Marian Atkinson

Email Address: marianferry55@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 250-287-6461

Address: 1420 16th Avenue, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 2E3

January 1, 2025

Dear Band Members,

Happy New Year to All!

Well, it is election time once again and you will likely all be tired of reading about it soon.

That being said, I will try to keep this as short as possible.

I have been nominated to run for a position on Council again and I would very much like to serve our community as I have in the past. I have the time to dedicate to this for our band, which is all of you.

I am an elder, and I am a board member for the society that runs the Annual Elders Gathering that has 2000 plus people attend each summer in Vancouver, which I am very proud of.

I served on our band council for many years, and I feel that I can help move us all forward now.

Locally I attend almost every - if not every - meeting that there is to do with our band, the financials, our treaty, the elders, and health. This is important because a Council member should be informed on everything that is going on, which I am, so that they can represent you fully.

I believe myself to be the best candidate running for one of the 4 seats on Council next month and I would appreciate your vote. If elected, I will work diligently for all members both on and off our reserve.

Members are invited to reach out to me when they see me in the community or to email, text or call if you have any questions for me.

Please remember to vote as it is your right, and it is your best way to be heard.

All my relations,

Marian Atkinson (Ferry)

Message from Jim Henderson: Re Election



My name is Jim Henderson and my Likwala name is "Ooh'yatz'ca". My wife Sandy and I have been married for 22 years. We have two sons, Rylee and Anthony. My parents are Jim and Nancy Henderson, and my sister is Mary Henderson. I am a descendent of my paternal grandparents, Kenneth (Butch) and Maude Henderson nee 'Quatell' and my maternal grandparents, David and Daisy Moon (nee 'Naknakim').

My family and I live on the Campbell River reserve and built our house 21 years ago. As a member of the Campbell River Band, I have been nominated again to represent you on the Council of the Weiwaikum First Nation (Campbell River Indian Band).

I am currently working as the Net Loft caretaker and assist the Maintenance Supervisor when needed for the Campbell River Indian Band. I was a commercial fisherman for many local skippers and lastly fished on my grandfather's boat until he retired. I then went on to work at Island Generation plant for 14 years, starting in 2001 as a power engineer apprentice and trained for and became a 3rd Class Power Engineer. After my tenure with Capitol Power at Island Generation I moved to Vancouver with a position at the Burrard Generating Station for BC Hydro until they shut down. I then went to Ekati Diamond Mine 300 Kms north of Yellowknife for a couple years. And then the Net Loft caretaker position came up and I applied and was successful in obtaining the job.

I have completed one full term as your elected Councillor and learned a lot about the processes and policies to deliver and maintain consistent governance procedures as well as to promote fair, just and positive administration practices.

I am passionate about our community and want to do my part to keep Campbell River Band/reserve(s) great. I will work collaboratively, positively, and productively with others serving on the council of Weiwaikum First Nation. I am again running for Council because I strongly believe that it is important to work together in serving our Weiwaikum members, both on and off reserve, for us to continue to be progressive in all areas of governance, housing, education, our elders and youth programs, business ventures, and to further our economic opportunities. We'll do that by running a transparent, efficient government, investing in our reserve and public spaces, and promoting balanced development. Most importantly I promise to work tirelessly to represent you.

Jim Henderson: Summary of Achievements over the past 4 years by Weiwaikum First Nation Chief and Council, and also several others proposed for the future.

- Since 2021, we've continued to oversee the following businesses: CRISCO
 Forest Products Ltd; Discovery Crescent Shopping Centre; Weiwaikum House
 of Treasures; Discovery Harbour fuel sales; the Discovery Harbour marina;
 Laich- Kwil-Tach Environment Assessments; Thunderbird RV Park and Resort;
 Weiwaikum Net Loft; and the Ocean Pacific lease, Weiwaikum Chief and
 Council have also increased our ownership of the Discovery Harbour
 Shopping Centre to 55%.
- We have had a float home barge built which will be located at Heydon Bay for community members and their families to utilize and enjoy staying in at our remote reservation and see how beautiful it is there.
- We have partnered with Capstone to build a Wind Mill farm and once it comes to fruition it will be a huge economic benefit to Weiwaikum First Nation for our band members and future children and grandchildren.
- The lease we have with Ocean Pacific offers band members the opportunity to obtain apprenticeship training and on successful completion of apprentice training, to obtain employment with them.
- One of our new initiatives will be to open an Indigenous Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences and Stewardship at the former cruise ship building located on our foreshore.
- We also propose to build a Weiwaikum Language and Culture Centre for all our band members with an area dedicated to our youth and elders (the building to be located at corner of the Thunderbird Hall parking lot).
- We are currently in Stage 5 of the Weiwaikum Treaty and have received a parcel of land through the Incremental Treaty Agreement wherein lands will be owned by Weiwaikum First Nation, whether we sign treaty, or not.
- We have two committees who have drafted a Weiwaikum First Nation Land Use Plan as well a Weiwaikum First Nation Treaty Constitution and once the drafts are redrafted, they will be brought to band members for review and approval.
- We have also entered into an Indigenous Marine Protected Area agreement with the governments to protect and preserve traditional marine resources and seafood for Weiwaikum First Nation band members only

James D Henderson

In the event you have any questions, please e-mail me at: jimhenderson@weiwaikum.ca or telephone me at: 250 287 6650





SONNY ASSU FOR WWK COUNCIL



I want to thank those who nominated me for the Weiwaikum Council. I am honoured to accept this nomination with the utmost respect and gratitude.

My name is Sonny Assu (Ġ*aʔġ*adəxə). My mother is Danielle Assu, whom many of you know from her days as the front desk smile for the former unified treaty society. I transferred to Weiwaikum in 2022 to honour my grandmother, Leila Crosby (Roberts), wish to live in the house she had built.

I am a highly acclaimed and internationally recognized artist. I am also a single father of three – five if you count the dog and cat – and have lived in the community since 2016.

My career spans 23 years and two degrees: a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master of Fine Arts. My work has taken me all over the world and to many Indigenous communities within North America. I have come to understand the world through a decolonial lens. To that end, I'm highly critical of the INAC governance structure and the modern-day treaty process.

As a councillor, I will bring ideas and critical, decolonial dialogue to the table. I will take this opportunity to further understand how this imposed system of governance works from within and at a community level and how we can challenge it for the betterment of our people.

WHAT I BRING TO THE TABLE...

- A unique perspective on our modern and traditional ways.
- A decolonial, humanitarianism and feminist points of view.
- Experience working on organizational boards and as a former provincially appointed board of governors member of Emily Carr University.
- A voice of clarity, introspection and criticality in the treaty process.
- Transparency: I will communicate openly and compassionately
- Critical thinking: I will use my knowledge, skills and education to make the best-informed decision for the betterment of our community.

I WILL ADVOCATE AND BE AN ALLY FOR...

- The Environment. I do not believe further natural resource extraction, environmental destruction, or mismanagement will benefit us in the long run.
- Housing initiatives. We need to provide better housing options for our community. Not everyone can afford or wants to build a single-family home on whatever precious space we have left. I have ideas about co-op housing, small apartment blocks, townhouses, and mixed retail/commercial/residential options. We need to prioritize housing options for the unhoused, single parents, small families, elders and single individuals who wish to live in the community.
- Questioning the various vacant housing lots in the community and suggesting paths forward to see if it is feasible to open them up to provide housing for people who want to live in the community now.
- Post-secondary education (college, university or trades).
- Elders and Youth: They are the future and the past, guiding us through the present.
- Off-community members. Having lived off-reserve most of my life, I understand the struggles you may face.
- Arts and Culture.
- Health and Wellbeing.
- Ligwiłda'xw AND Kwakwaka'wakw unity.

WE ARE A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY!

However, we could do more to provide for our people outside a capitalist, colonial structure.

I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE.

I look forward to working with you to ensure we are a strong and united community.

Debbie Davis

Email: debbiedavis17@shaw.ca







I am running for 1 of 4 Council positions with the Wei Wai Kum First Nation. I am the daughter of the late Louis Quocksister and my mother is Joan Ryan. I was born in Campbell River but lived most of my life off reserve in North Burnaby. I recently moved back to Campbell River. I have 2 sons (Brandon and Willie Davis and 1 granddaughter Aaliya Davis).

I currently work for the Department of Justice as Human Resources Administrative Officer. I was given approval from the ADM-Assistant Deputy Minister of Justice to work 100% remotely in my community. I report directly to my Director of Human Resources who is located in Ottawa, ON. Our Human Resources Team is located across Canada (Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax). I have a valid Security Clearance with the DOJ. My duties include, finance, human resources, material management, travel, hospitality, ATIP, etc. I manage our O&M Budget of \$255,940 and Salary Budget of \$6,113,744 for 75.6 FTE's. I participate weekly in our Management Team Meeting's and regularly update our team with the status of our Budget and other issues.

I recently did 3 years in PSDI – Public, Safety Defence & Immigration as the Office & Legal Support Manager at Department of Justice. Secret Clearance due to the high-profile files we manage. Provide administrative, financial and human resources services to the Regional Director & General Counsel. I managed the Admin Team and Office. I managed O&M Budget of \$460,000 and Salary Budget of \$8,700,000 for 79.5 FTE's (full time equivalent) positions. I provided training and mentorship to my staff. Participate in weekly Management Meetings and held biweekly Admin Team meetings for my admin team.

Prior to returning to the government, I worked for 12 years at Canadian Airlines (now Air Canada). I have my Travel Counselling Diploma. My most memorable job was working with all the Chief Pilots of each aircraft. Desktop Publishing System to draft and produce Flight Crew Operating Manuals, De-icing Procedures, Minimum Equipment Lists and reconstruct airport runways (graphic updates for the Jeppison Manual) for the approval of Chief Pilots and MOT-Ministry of Transport.

As part of the Leader's Network at Justice, I participated in several leadership training sessions, some listed below:

 Leadership Training for Managers, Duty to Accommodate, Staffing for Managers, Labour Relations Training for Managers/Supervisors, Classification Evaluation for Managers, PSLRA (Public Service Labour Relations Act), Diversity Training for Managers, Financial Signing Authority, Contract Training, Conflict Management, Civility on the Workplace, Presentation Skills Workshop and Communication with Influence and several Human Resources Management courses at BCIT. The core competencies in my work and interactions with colleagues, clients and my Director's has always been important to me and follow it each and every day:

- 1. Demonstrating integrity and respect I consistently work in a manner that reflects my commitment to Client Service. I assist my staff in their needs and provide guidance and direction if needed. I actively contribute to a workplace that is safe, healthy and respectful. I am open and transparent.
- 2. Thinking things through I am methodical when it comes to budgeting/planning and am effective at prioritizing tasks.
- 3. Working effectively with others I interact with my colleagues and superiors in a respectful and professional manner.
- 4. Civility and inclusion I treat everyone with respect and consideration, and I make everyone feel like they belong.

Housing – I would like to see more housing available for all our member's (on and off reserve member's). We need housing for every class whether it being for single occupancy, couples, families and elders. I know many of you want to move back home, but don't have anywhere to move too. Living off reserve and paying high rents, mortgages, taxes, gas, parking, food, etc. I see the need and urgency for those that want to move back home. I am a mom, that worries about my kids all the time and I'm sure you do too. We need to start building now.

Economic Development – there is always room to grow and employ our own member's.

Mental Health – I would like to see our own treatment centre for our member's. I see so many struggling with addiction, loss & grief.

Natural Resources – we to need to ensure our natural resources are used sustainably and that the environment is healthy for our future generations.

Culture & Sport — It's important for our members sharing our language, traditions and history. My family comes from playing all different sports, such as soccer, ice hockey, lacrosse, baseball and skiing/snowboarding. Sport gives our children and youth, physical health, mental health, social skills, self-esteem, stress relief and life skills.

If elected as Council, I will bring all my experience, competencies and training with me. I will listen and I will respond to each of you. Your voice matters to me and I will bring whatever you are having issues/concerns/suggestions with to Chief & Council. I am ethical, tactful, respect confidentiality, compassionate, empathic, personable and sensitive to your needs. You can count on me to be your voice!

be kind – be respectful – be humble

With love and gratitude!

Ğilakas'la

Debbie Davis

ELECT ANDREW PUGLAS JR. FOR WWK COUNCIL 2025.

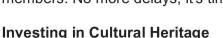
Dear Members of the WWK Nation.

This is a call to action for our community—a call to embrace a vision that prioritizes our members, their homes, and their futures. I am Andrew Puglas Jr. and I am running for a seat on the WWK Council in 2025. It's time for no-nonsense leadership that puts our needs first.

Housing for Our Members

For too long, our housing initiatives have been placed on the back burner. Every member of our community deserves a safe, stable place to call home. I will advocate for a comprehensive

housing strategy that prioritizes building affordable housing and supports for our members. No more delays; it's time to bring our community home.



Our culture is a vital part of who we are, and for years, it has been neglected. We must invest in our cultural heritage, ensuring that future generations understand, appreciate, and celebrate our rich history. Let's take decisive action to preserve and showcase our traditions, empowering our community to thrive.

Supporting Youth Sports and Health

Our youth need more than just safe spaces; they need opportunities to engage in sports and healthy activities. By investing in youth sporting programs, we can foster not only physical health but also teamwork, discipline, and resilience. A healthy youth is a thriving future.

Bridging Generational Gaps

We must bridge the divide between our youth and our elders. By fostering mentorship programs that connect generations, we can share valuable wisdom and experiences, creating a more unified and understanding community.

Economic Growth Through Entrepreneurship

Economic empowerment begins with investing in our entrepreneurs. I will advocate for programs that provide capital and resources to help our members establish their businesses and franchises. Together, we can create sustainable economic growth and job opportunities.

Education and Community Partnerships

Education is the foundation of a successful community. We need to develop community-based education programs in partnership with local educational institutions. Together, we can provide our members with the tools and knowledge they need to excel.



Ending Discrimination and Supporting Every Member

Discrimination has no place in our community. I will work tirelessly to ensure that every child and member of our community has equal opportunities to succeed. We must uplift one another and foster an environment of inclusivity and support.

Investing in Healing and Unity

Our community has endured enough suffering. It's time to invest in healing initiatives that foster unity and understanding. We must end judgment and division, coming together to support each other and create a stronger, healthier community.

We must remain optimistic and proactive, recognizing that our choices today lay the groundwork for a better tomorrow. It is time to elect leaders who are not only passionate but also possess the necessary experience and knowledge leaders who understand both the intricacies of politics and the realities of business. I stand before you ready and eager to be that voice; a voice grounded in understanding, driven by purpose.

Politicians and cultural leaders are born from the fires of experience, not simply groomed in the halls of power. I have dedicated myself to learning, growing, and preparing for this moment. Together, we can build a future that reflects our shared values and aspirations. Let us unite in our mission to create a brighter, more inclusive society. Now is the time to act, to choose wisely, and to stand together. Our future depends on it. My office door will be open for our members to come talk once a week to discuss their concerns or ideas they may have. I am here to listen, act, and influence positive solutions so that we can move forward together.

No More Excuses; It's Time to Get the Job Done

The time for talking is over. It's time for action, accountability, and real progress. With your support, we can turn these goals into reality. Together, we can transform our community and create a brighter future for all. I stand ready to lead this charge, with a no-nonsense approach that prioritizes our collective well-being.

I invite you to join me in this bold campaign. **Elect Andrew Puglas Jr. for WWK Council 2025.** Together, we will build a stronger, more united community where every member has the opportunity to prosper.

Thank you for your support.

Gilakas'dawxala, Andrew Puglas Jr. Candidate for WWK Council 2025

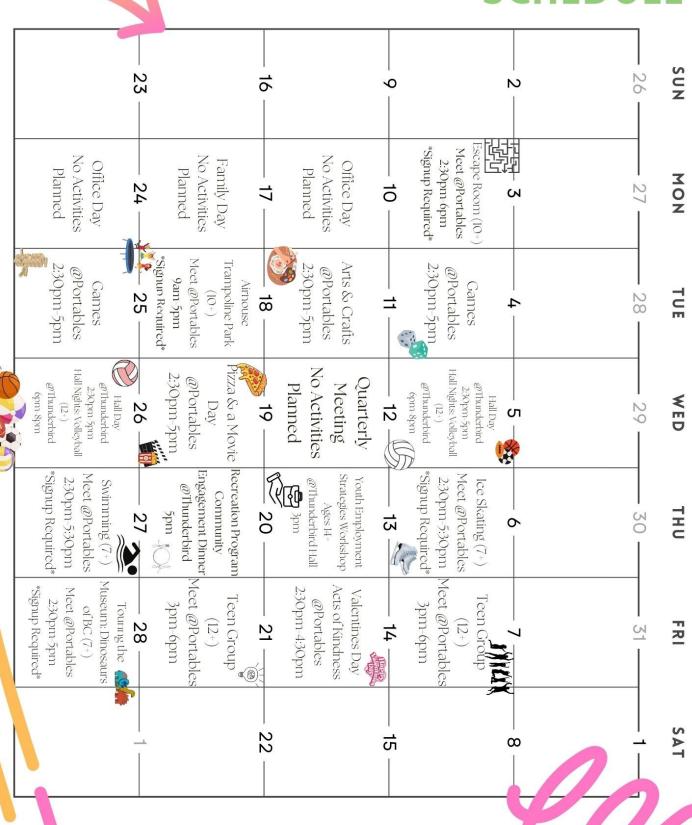


WeiWaiKum ELDERS CALENDAR



23	16	9	CROUNDHOG ODAY	B	Sunday
24 Office Day	17 Family Day! OFFICE CLOSED	10 Out of office	3 Office Day	Need transpor text or email Co Colleendi	Monday
Garden day Chair exercises 10:30-11:30 at LKT	Garden day Chair exercises 10:30-11:30 at LKT	11	4 Garden day	Need transportation to activities? Call, text or email Colleen Dick (250)202-0115 Colleendick@weiwaikum.ca	Tuesday
Grocery / Dr. appt day Pink Shirt STOP Shirt STOP Shirt STOP SHULLWING	19 Grocery / Dr. appt day, Call ahead to book with Colleen	12	Grocery / Dr. appt day, Call ahead to book with Colleen	OI .	Wednesday
Elders lunch at the nest	20 Elders lunch at the nest	13	Elders lunch at the nest		Thursday
28 Home Visits	21 Home Visits	Valentine's Day	7 Away from office		Friday
	22	15 _©	∞	1	Saturday

FEBRUARY RECREATION SCHEDULE







February 6th & 20th 2:30pm-5:30pm Ages 7+ *Signup Required* Meet @ Portables



DAY DROP IN @ THUNDERBIRD HALL 2:30PM-5PM FEBRUARY 5TH & 26TH RECREATION@WEIWAIKUM.CA 250-202-1115

ESCAPE ROOM

MEET @PORTABLES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD
2:30PM-6PM
AGES 10+
SIGNUP REQUIRED

RECREATION WEIWAIKUM.CA 250-202-1115





HALAKAS'LA WA'YANX (GOODBYE JANUARY)

YO DZADZA'WANX (HELLO FEBRUARY)

UPDATE FOR WEI WAI KUM AND WALITSAMA DESCENDANTS ON K'OMOKS TREATY AND PROPOSED COURT CASE

(January 12, 2025)

OVERVIEW

Wei Wai Kum First Nation is reaching out for comments and potential support for a court case to protect the Salmon River Reserve. This directly involves Walitsama descendants (specifically, the descendants of the Salmon River Band, as it was in 1940) but also potentially impacts all Members.

In 1940, an Indian agent arranged for the members of Salmon River Band and Comox Indian Band to vote to merge the two bands (the "**Amalgamation**"). There are many issues with the way in which the Amalgamation was promoted, how it was put to vote, who voted, the terms of the Amalgamation, and Comox' non-compliance with those terms. Of particular concern, is that Comox Indian Band later ignored the following terms of the amalgamation and Canada did nothing about this:

- There were supposed to be two Chiefs: one representing the Walitsama Ligwiłdaxw and the other representing Comox Indian Band members;
- The Comox Indian Band and Salmon River Band reserves were supposed to be shared equally, including the Salmon River Reserve; and
- The Comox Indian Band and Salmon River Band assets and revenues were supposed to be shared equally.

To date, K'ómoks has continued to ignore these commitments.

SERIOUS CONCERNS WITH K'OMOKS TREATY

K'ómoks has been involved in treaty negotiations with Canada and BC since 1994. The negotiations were originally part of the broader Liǧwiłdaxw negotiations table, but then K'ómoks split off on its own. When this happened, the Liǧwiłdaxw Nations assumed that K'ómoks would live up to earlier agreements and would not claim anything in Liǧwiłdaxw Territory without proper consents and protocols. Unfortunately, this turned out not to be the case. K'ómoks has claimed lands, resources and rights that encroach on Liǧwiłdaxw Territory. Their Treaty is now nearing completion. Chief Negotiators from all parties initialed the draft treaty at the end of July 2024 and there is discussion of a ratification vote being held as early as March, 2025.¹

If the K'ómoks Treaty is ratified as it is currently drafted:

¹ To learn more about the process read <u>here</u>. The initialled K'ómoks Treaty is available <u>here</u> and the K'ómoks Treaty Appendice is <u>here</u>.



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- the Salmon River Reserve (and all K'ómoks reserves) will be transferred to the K'ómoks Nation in fee simple;²
- K'ómoks will develop a Co-Management Agreement to address lands and resource management and decision-making within the "K'ómoks Traditional Territory" (as defined therein) including over the Salmon River Reserve³ to the exclusion of the Liğwiłdaxw Nations;
- The only elected Chief for the Salmon River Reserve in the future will be the K'ómoks Chief; and
- K'ómoks will get to keep all of the Salmon River Band's 1940 trust monies and all other assets and revenues that were generated from Salmon River Reserve and other shared assets/revenue that were supposed to be shared.

WWK and other Liğwiłdaxw nations have been pressuring Canada and BC to fulfill their constitutional duty to consult and accommodate, including by removing the Salmon River Reserve from the K'omoks Treaty.

Unfortunately, Canada and BC have not fulfilled their duty to consult and accommodate WWK on the impact the treaty will have on WWK's constitutionally protected s. 35 rights. Nor have they agreed to remove the Salmon River Reserve from the treaty negotiation table.

The proposed litigation would ask the court to:

- unwind the 1940 Amalgamation;
- take the beneficial interest in the Salmon River Reserve back from K'ómoks and order that the Reserve be held on behalf of the descendants of the Salmon River Band until they decide whether they want to (1) join with their Ligwiłdaxw neighbours (ie: Wei Wai Kum) or (2) reconstitute the Salmon River Band; and
- order K'ómoks to account for and return the Salmon River Band's share of the trust monies and all other assets and revenues that were supposed to be shared, or were generated from K'ómoks' unauthorized exploitation of the Reserve (ie: forestry).

The litigation would also seek damages and declarations:

- against Canada for breach of fiduciary duty; and
- against K'ómoks for its ongoing trespass, nuisance and conversion of the Salmon River Reserve and trust monies, and its unjust enrichment.

RATIONALE

WWK hopes that by initiating this litigation, we can protect the Salmon River Reserve,



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² Initialled K'ómoks Treaty, Lands, para 12 (ep 88).

³ Initialled K'ómoks Treaty, Resource Management, para 2 (ep 177).

apply immediate and significant pressure on K'ómoks, Canada (and by extension, BC) to recognize and accommodate Liğwiłdaxw rights and interests in the area that stand to be affected by the K'ómoks Treaty, and restore Walitsama's and Ligwiłdaxw's access to this culturally and historically significant place.

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS LITIGATION

This litigation is intended to benefit the Walitsama, and more specifically, the descendants of the Salmon River Band who have been excluded from the Salmon River Reserve by K'ómoks since the 1940 Amalgamation, and will continue to be excluded, especially if the K'ómoks treaty is ratified and ownership of the Reserve is transferred to K'ómoks in fee simple.

This litigation will also have a side benefit to all Liğwiłdaxw nations. If successful, it will reconfirm Ligwiłdaxw presence in the Salmon River watershed, and send a strong message to K'ómoks, Canada (and by extension, BC) that:

- the Ligwiłdaxw have a deep connection to these lands and waters that must be respected; and
- K'ómoks' presence in the area is dependent on Liğwiłdaxw permission and intermarriage.

WHO IS THE PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVE PLAINTIFF AND WHY DO WE NEED ONE?

Our lawyers have recommended we proceed by way of a representative action. A representative action is more inclusive than an ordinary claim (where all plaintiffs have to be named and actively participate), and is simpler and faster than a class action.

This means we need to have at least one representative plaintiff who provides instruction to the lawyers. The representative plaintiffs must be descendants of the Salmon River Band, as it was in 1940. The current proposed representatives are:

- Chief Chris Roberts, and
- Nancy Henderson.

Whoever's name is on paper as the representative, the intent is to work closely with all descendants.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Litigation is expensive, unpredictable, and slow. Although the lawyers will do most of the work, members may be asked, from time-to-time, to contribute their skills, knowledge and oral history to support the litigation.

Additionally, there is the risk that the litigation is unsuccessful. If this occurs, the



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defendants may seek a costs order against the plaintiffs. WWK has stated they are willing to accepts this risk and will ensure that no individual members are required to pay costs out-of-pocket.

NEXT STEPS

We know that at least the following individuals were members of Salmon River Band in January 1941:

- Harry Moon
 - ~ Marie Moon (née Riviera) (wife)
 - ~ Geraldine Moon
 - ~ Leona Moon
 - ~ Dorothy Moon
 - ~ John Moon
 - ~ William Moon
 - ~ Jean Austin Fred
- Moses Moon
 - ~ Mary Frank (née Humchitt) (wife)
- Eleanor Moon (Moses' adult daughter)
- Annie Humseet (widow of Sam Humseet)
- Lucy Homiskinis (Louise Hovell's mother)
- Dave Moon

If you and/or your family identify as descendants of one or more of these individuals, please reach out to Courtney Fidler (<u>Courtneyfidler@weiwaikum.ca</u>) to:

- (1) confirm you support initiating litigation against K'ómoks First Nation and the Crown to invalidate the Amalgamation and seek recovery of the Salmon River Reserve.
- (2) confirm you support naming Chief Chris Roberts and Nancy Henderson as the representative plaintiffs in that action, or
- (3) nominate someone else (including yourself) to be a representative plaintiff in that litigation, alongside Chief Chris Roberts and Nancy Henderson.

Even if you are not a descendant, we are interested in your thoughts, concerns, and comments.



Thunder Bird



Thunderbird - k"enx"a

Pronounced kwen-xwa

Thunder Bird - Kwənxwa: Symbol of prestige. The Thunderbird was the most powerful of all spirits, held to be the personification of the Chief. Thunderbird is large enough to carry a whale in his talons, and is often depicted so, as well as being powerful and willing enough to help people by lifting great house beams with his talons. It is also said that thunder is casued by when Thunderbird flaps its wings, and that Thunderbird controls lightning with the blink of an eye.

Artwork and description by: Mulidzas - Curtis Wilson

GARBAGE/RECYCLING REMINDERS

GARBAGE DAY IS EVERY TUESDAY FOR CURBSIDE PICK UP & RECYCLING IS EVERY OTHER WEEK. THE GARBAGE BINS AT THE THUNDERBIRD HALL ARE BEING MONITORED BY SURVEILLANCE AND THE BINS ARE TO ONLY BE USED IF YOU HAVE MISSED GARBAGE DAY AND YOU HAVE UNWANTED GARBAGE THAT NEEDS TO BE DISPOSED OF.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR GARBAGE OUT BY 7AM TO ENSURE PICK UP.

THE NEXT RECYCLING DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWED: 2025



FEBRUARY 4
FEBRUARY 18
MARCH 4
MARCH 18
APRIL 1







Bachelor of Education

Indigenous Post-Degree Professional Program

A 20-month program for Indigenous and non-Indigenous aspiring K-12 teachers

Relevant, relational and transformative education for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students to foster a deeper understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Métis histories, cultures and ways of knowing and being.

Graduates will receive a UVic Bachelor of Education degree and will be eligible to apply for a BC Teaching Professional Certificate of Qualification (K-12).

Questions? Email ied.practicum@uvic.ca

Apply now for September 2025







Find out more & apply now at uvic.ca/education/indigenous

Indigenous Education Post-Degree Professional Bachelor of Education Degree Program Department of Indigenous Education, Faculty of Education, The University of Victoria.

Program overview:

This post-degree professional program will provide aspiring teachers, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, with a relevant, relational, and transformative education designed to foster a deeper understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Métis histories, cultures, and ways of knowing and being. The program is designed to enhance relational accountabilities with local indigenous people and communities.

Courses are designed to support the holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential and relational growth of learners; as such, courses will be offered on the land, and in the classroom. This program has also been enhanced by regular weekly intensive learning opportunities. Students will develop a deep understanding of the First Peoples Principles of Learning, the Professional Standards for BC Educators, and the qualification requirements established by the Ministry of Education for K-12 teaching. The program includes a year one six week practicum and a year two final practicum of ten weeks.

Graduates of this twenty-month program will receive a Bachelor of Education degree and are eligible to apply for a BC Teaching Professional Certificate of Qualification (K-12, non-expiring).

Graduates will:

- Develop an awareness of and appreciation for the dynamics of Indigenous languages, knowledge, traditional pedagogy and origins of traditional values and worldviews.
- Demonstrate respect for diversity by creating a classroom atmosphere where Indigenous perspectives are welcomed, acknowledged, and honoured.
- Form healthy relationships with local Indigenous peoples.
- Understand the significance of land and place for Indigenous communities.
- Apply Indigenous knowledge and perspectives across the curriculum.
- Understand the settler role in colonialism and themes in anti-colonial education.
- Support holistic child and youth development, and enact differentiated instructional practices; and,
- Be committed to Indigenous student success.

For additional information please contact

Gary Crocker, IED Program Coordinator. Email: ied.practicum@uvic.ca