

# STÁUTW FIRST NATION

## NEWSLETTER

[www.tsawout.ca](http://www.tsawout.ca)

June 2025



### **2025 Canoe Races**

We are currently preparing the race schedule and creating the event program for this year's Annual Canoe Races.

Would you or your family like to:

- Sponsor a race in memory of someone?
- Donate to help cover event costs?
- Support the tradition and celebration of canoe racing in our community?

Read page 9 for more information.

### **Inside this issue:**

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# Polling Notice

Polling Notice for the STÁUTW First Nation General Election & List of Nominees 2025  
Notice is hereby given to the electors of the STÁUTW First Nation that a poll will be held to elect one Chief and eight Councillors to the Council of the STÁUTW First Nation. The poll will be held at The STÁUTW First Nation Gym located at 7728 Tetayut Road, Saanichton, B.C. on the 7th day of July 2025 from 9:00 AM until 8:00 PM (local time).

And that I will count the votes at the STÁUTW First Nation Gym located at 7728 Tetayut Road, Saanichton, B.C. on the 7th day of July 2025, immediately after the close of the poll and declare the results of the election.

Given under my hand at Delta, British Columbia, on May 26, 2025.

Fred.P.Schiffner,

Electoral Officer

Phone number: 604-786-2512

Toll Free: 1-800-813-2173

Email: fschiffner90@gmail.com

## TSAWOUT FIRST NATION FINAL LIST OF CANDIDATES AS OF MAY 31, 2025

### CHIEF

1	ETZEL, JOHN (J.P.)
2	PELKEY, ABRAHAM

### COUNCIL

1	ADAMS, MAGIE-MAE
2	CLAXTON, ALLAN
3	CLAXTON, DANIEL
4	ETZEL, JOHN (J.P.)
5	ETZEL, E. SAMANTHA
6	HARRY, WILHEMENA (WILLA)
7	HORNE, GEORGE
8	JOSEPH, TOBY
9	LAFORTUNE, PERRY
10	PELKEY, ERIC
11	PELKEY, FRANK
12	PELKEY, JOEL
13	SAM, STANLEY RAYMOND
14	UNDERWOOD, BRUCE
15	UNDERWOOD, CHARLENE
16	UNDERWOOD, HARVEY
17	UNDERWOOD, MAVIS
18	UNDERWOOD, RICHARD
19	WILLIAMS, DONALD
20	WILSON, JOHN
21	WILSON, KEVIN

NOTE: THE ABOVE LIST OF  
CANDIDATES ARE SUBJECT TO  
WITHDRAWAL UP TO AND INCLUDING  
JULY 7, 2025



# Community News

## **CRD and STÁUTW Sign Memorandum of Understanding**

*Media Release For Immediate Release May 15, 2025*

Victoria, BC- The Capital Regional District (CRD) and STÁUTW (Tsawout) First Nation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

STÁUTW First Nation has been a caretaker of the land on which the CRD is located since time immemorial. This MOU outlines a framework for ongoing dialogue and supports respectful, reciprocal government-to-government decision-making and service delivery that uplifts Indigenous self-determination. By implementing this MOU, the CRD will integrate STÁUTW's perspectives and wisdom into CRD's initiatives, which will enhance regional service delivery and create opportunities for collaborative economic growth and community well-being.

"It's with great honour and excitement that we, as STÁUTW First Nation, alongside the CRD, advance reconciliation in real time! I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the CRD for working through and signing an MOU with STÁUTW First Nation," said STÁUTW Chief Abraham Pelkey. "Although the Local Government Act states engaging or consulting with a First Nation government isn't mandated, CRD does it anyway. We at STÁUTW value this effort and our newfound relationship, now and into the future."

"We are honoured to enter into this agreement with STÁUTW First Nation to strengthen our government-to-government relationship," said Cliff McNeil-Smith, Chair of the CRD Board. "This MOU reflects our commitment to working together in a spirit of partnership and respect, recognizing the importance of Indigenous knowledge and leadership in our shared efforts. I look forward to our ongoing collaboration."

By outlining principles for working together, this MOU will directly support the creation of new processes for respectful and reciprocal government-to-government decision-making. CRD and STÁUTW staff will collaboratively develop a workplan and hold ongoing meetings to review progress on the priority topics identified in the MOU. Additionally, annual government-to-government meetings will be held between leadership and elected representatives. These regular points of connection are important to foster continuous dialogue, build trust, and ensure that both parties remain aligned in their shared goals and commitments.



## Community News

The MOU sets out priority topics for collaboration, including:


- fostering a respectful relationship;
- heritage conservation;
- reclaiming SENĆOTEN placenames;
- parks, protected areas, and trails;
- consultation;
- docks and foreshore stewardship;
- storm water and source control water monitoring and management;
- land use strategies, management, and decision-making;
- environmental protection and restoration;
- land acquisition and disposition;
- equipment and resources;
- water supply and sewage treatment infrastructure;
- economic development and employment;
- contribution sharing; and
- any other topics identified and agreed to by the Parties.

The CRD delivers regional, sub-regional and local services to 13 municipalities and three electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Governed by a 24-member Board of Directors, the CRD works collaboratively with First Nations and government partners to enable sustainable growth, foster community well-being, and develop cost-effective infrastructure while continuing to provide core services to residents throughout the region. Visit us online at [www.crd.ca](http://www.crd.ca).



# Upcoming News & Events

Are you age 16-35 with aspirations of becoming a Wildland Firefighter?



**STÁUTW FIRST NATION**

Indigenous Youth  
Wildfire Training and Recruitment

Protect Your Land!

## Wildfire Training

June 24 June 25 June 26  
Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

8 am – 5 pm daily

BOOST YOUR WILDLAND FIGHTING CAREER WITH THE FOLLOWING TRAINING/CERTIFICATIONS:

- S-100/195 (Foundational Wildfire Certifications)
- ICS-100 (Incident Command System Basics)
- WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System)
- 5-Hours of Hands-on Equipment Training and More!

For more information or to express interest please contact Sean Charbonneau, Employment and Training Manager for Tsawout First Nation: [employmentmanager@tsawout.ca](mailto:employmentmanager@tsawout.ca) or 250-652-9101 Ext 325



**Tsawout Fisheries**

## Youth Internship Program

Summer 2025

Interested in being out on the water?

Looking for opportunities for experiential cultural learning?

Looking for a fun summer job?

**Questions?**

**Contact Tsawout Fisheries**  
Phone: (250) 652-9101 ext. 324  
Email: [marineuseplanner@tsawout.ca](mailto:marineuseplanner@tsawout.ca)

Scan to View Job Posting



Niĭ TU,O invites you to attend a

## Caregiver Information Session

Tsawout First Nation

June 12th, 2025  
4:30pm - 6:00pm

Tsawout Wellness Building  
7725 Tetayut Road


Join us to learn how to become a Niĭ TU,O Caregiver and support children in our community. Refreshments will be provided!

**What to Expect:**

- Step-by-step guidance on how to become a caregiver
- Information about the roles and responsibilities of caregivers

RSVP to Sara Henry  
[shenry@niltuo.ca](mailto:shenry@niltuo.ca) or call 778-679-5483

This event is open to Tsawout First Nations community members.



## Youth Art Contest

**CALLING ON**  
First Nations artists, poets & storytellers!

**You could win**

**\$50**  
For entering - for the first 25 artists

**\$500**  
Per winning submission

**Join FNHA's HPV Cancer Care Action Campaign!**

Express your perspectives and cultural values on community wellness, HPV & cancer prevention.

Open to First Nations individuals in BC ages 11 and above!

**Submit by June 30, 2025**

Open to all skill levels!

**CATEGORIES**  
Visual Art • Short Stories • Poetry

**THEME**  
For you, your future, your community.  
Stand together against cancer caused by HPV

**HOW IT WORKS**

- 1 Learn about HPV at [FNHA.ca/HPV](http://FNHA.ca/HPV)
- 2 Create up to 3 pieces of art in any one or several categories
- 3 Submit by **June 30, 2025** by following the QR code or link
- 4 Win prize money and see your art in FNHA's HPV campaign resources and website!

**MORE INFO AT**  
[FNHA.ca/HPV](http://FNHA.ca/HPV)  
QUESTIONS? EMAIL [HPV@FNHA.ca](mailto:HPV@FNHA.ca)

Artists retain copyright over their work while granting FNHA permission to use submissions in the campaign.





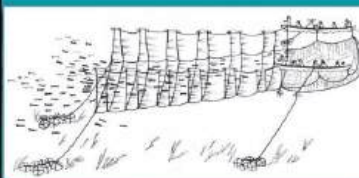

# STÁUTW First Nation

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY FIRST SALMON CEREMONY & REEF NET CANOE BLESSING

Native Plant ID with  
STÁUTW  
Community Member  
JB



First Salmon Ceremony by  
Troy Olsen and Our  
Fisheries Team  
+  
Reef Net Canoe Blessing



Drum Making Demo  
with STÁUTW  
Community Member  
John-John



### Everything in Prayer & Ceremony

Friday | 20 June, 2025

TIXEN | 10AM to 3PM

Please join us down at TIXEN for celebration & ceremony  
Light lunch & snacks will be served  
Sign-up with the QR code below.



For more information:  
CASEMOT (Jennifer Claxton)  
STÁUTW Fisheries Reef Net  
Revitalization Project Coordinator  
250-652-9101, ext. 324  
[www.tsawout.ca](http://www.tsawout.ca)





# Upcoming Events

2025
June



**FIRST**  
A CELEBRATION OF INDIGENOUS FILM

June 19 - 22, 2025

*Experience the vibrant tapestry of storytelling at FIRST: A Celebration of Indigenous Film.*

*From stirring documentaries to captivating dramas, immerse yourself in the rich culture and heritage of Indigenous people*

 <b>Skoden</b>	 <b>They Are Sacred</b>	 <b>So Surreal: Behind The Masks</b>	 <b>The Spirit Who Swims</b>	 <b>Reel Injun</b>	 <b>Sweet Summer Pow Wow</b>
 <b>Amanda Strong Showcase</b>	 <b>Saints and Warriors</b>	 <b>Qaqsoos naka Wahantuhis</b> <small>(Fox &amp; the City Series)</small>	 <b>They Have to Hear Us:</b> <small>Canada's Duty to Consult Issue</small>	 <b>NiimiSak: Sisters In Film</b>	 <b>Li Michif Niyanaana: We Are Métis</b>

**Buy tickets at [www.victoriafilmfestival.com](http://www.victoriafilmfestival.com)**

**Emerging Filmmaker Panels**

**June 19 Thursday**

 **The Vic Theatre**  
808 Douglas St, V8W 2B7, Victoria BC

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**Funding Opportunities Panel**  
NFB, Creative BC and other funding organizations  
**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

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**Grant Writing**  
Eli Hirtle  
**1:00 pm - 2:30 pm**

**Youth Indigenous Workshops**

**June 21 Saturday**

 **ICA - Inter-Cultural Association**  
808 Douglas St, Victoria BC | 5th Floor

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**Set Decoration**  
Spencer Sacht-Lund  
**9:00 am - 10:30 am**

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**The Art of Storytelling**  
Steve Sxwithul'txw  
**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**June 22 Sunday**

 **ICA - Inter-Cultural Association**  
808 Douglas St, Victoria BC | 5th Floor

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**The Many Career Paths in Film**  
Spencer Sacht-Lund  
**9:00 am - 10:30 am**

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**Stop Motion**  
Amanda Strong  
**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**



**Ticket price \$14.29 + GST**

**All workshops FREE OF CHARGE but you must register at [www.victoriafilmfestival.com/festival](http://www.victoriafilmfestival.com/festival) or scan the QR Code.**

 VICTORIA FOUNDATION
  IATSE LOCAL 891
  PRINCE OF WHALES  
WHALE & MARINE WILDLIFE ADVENTURES
  CMPA  
Crested Auklet Provincial Park
  UBCP ACTRA
  VICTORIA FILM FESTIVAL

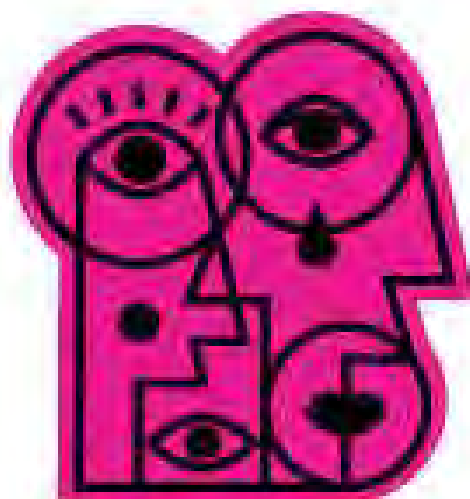
 THE VIC THEATRE
  CREATIVE BC
  MARK LORIA GALLERY
  ICA  
Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria
  MOCO
  FERNWOOD  
LITTELL SQUARE VICTORIA, BC CANADA
  chek
  CBC
  TIMES COLONIST
  VICTORIA FILM FESTIVAL

**FOLLOW US**    

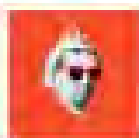
For 51 years, the non-profit Victoria Film Festival has held events on the traditional lands of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. We acknowledge with respect the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SANEĆ peoples whose relationship with the land continues to this day.

**THE VIC THEATRE | 808 DOUGLAS ST**

## Upcoming Events



**VICTORIA**  
**FILM** —  
**FESTIVAL**  
February 6 - 15, 2026



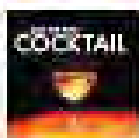
**The Vic Theatre - Year Round**



**FIRST A Celebration Of  
Indigenous Film - Jun 19 - 22, 2025**



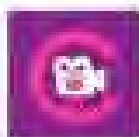
**Free B Film Fest - Aug 2025**



**Art of the Cocktail - Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 2025**



**Chocolate a Tasting Event - Oct 19<sup>th</sup> 2025**



**FilmCan - Oct 2025 / Jan 2026**

The VFF acknowledges and respects the ləkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory we live and work and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.



# Upcoming Events

## Seeking Race Sponsors & Donations

Annual Tsawout War Canoe Races  
June 28–29, 2025

We're currently preparing the race schedule and creating the event program for this year's Annual Canoe Races.

Many families choose to sponsor races in memory of loved ones, and we warmly welcome memorial race sponsorships or general donations to help support this special event.

Would you or your family like to:

- Sponsor a race in memory of someone?
- Donate to help cover event costs?
- Support the tradition and celebration of canoe racing in our community?

Every contribution helps make this event a success!

To sponsor or donate, please contact:

Angelina Garcia

[agarcia@tsawout.ca](mailto:agarcia@tsawout.ca)

Bonnie Seward

[healthdirector@tsawout.ca](mailto:healthdirector@tsawout.ca)

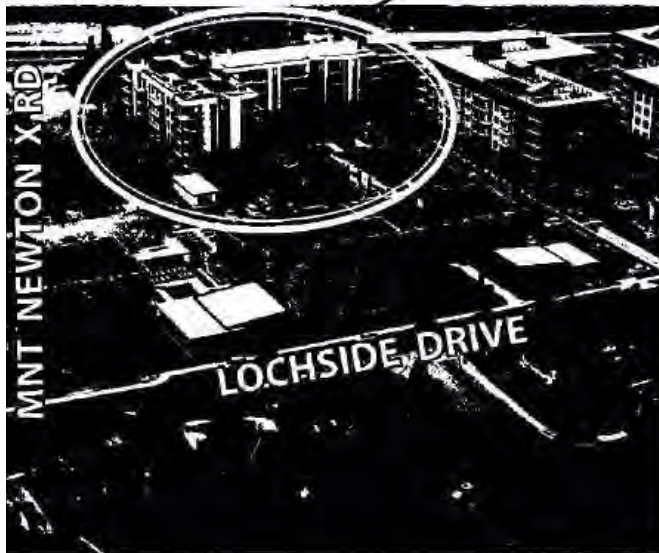
Thank you for supporting our community and keeping this tradition alive!



## ***More Development in Your Neighbourhood?***

*What does that mean for YOU?*

Architectural Drawing of 7840 Lochside Dr  
- A Proposed 131 Unit Building.



Contact us: [centralsaanich.citizenvoices@gmail.com](mailto:centralsaanich.citizenvoices@gmail.com)

Produced by a Group of Concerned Citizens, May 21, 2025.

### ***Did you know that the intersection of Mount Newton Cross Rd and Pat Bay has the 2nd highest accident rate on the Peninsula?***

Are you aware that there are **7 access points** to this section of Mount Newton X Road, leading to accidents and congestion?

The short left-turning lane to Pat Bay Highway, **which is now often filled**, results in cars blocking other lanes.

Have you noticed that this intersection is more congested since the Marigold Lands development? As many of the new units on Marigold Lands are **not yet occupied**, you will see a **huge traffic impact** very shortly as people move in.

The Tsawout lands are undergoing a **major expansion** with new homes and a residential building going in. **All traffic** will go to Mount Newton Cross Road and Lochside.



## ***Can YOU make a difference? Yes!***

Writing a letter to your Municipal Council is very effective. Our group has done a great deal of advocacy in the last two years and it has made a difference.

Several councillors have voiced significant concerns: lack of community benefit and affordability, negative implications to the community including traffic and parking. **We need to ensure that this project is defeated.**

If you oppose this, please send an email **ASAP** with your concerns to **ALL** of the Mayor and Councillors and Municipal Hall below. Council will be voting on this very soon.

Important Note: In the **Subject Line** of your email write: "Development Proposal 7840 Lochside Drive".

1. Municipal Hall: [municipal.hall@csaanich.ca](mailto:municipal.hall@csaanich.ca)
2. Ryan Windsor: [ryan.windsor@csaanich.ca](mailto:ryan.windsor@csaanich.ca)
3. Gord Newton: [gordon.newton@csaanich.ca](mailto:gordon.newton@csaanich.ca)
4. Zeb King: [zeb.king@csaanich.ca](mailto:zeb.king@csaanich.ca)
5. Sarah Riddell: [sarah.riddell@csaanich.ca](mailto:sarah.riddell@csaanich.ca)
6. Chris Graham: [chris.graham@csaanich.ca](mailto:chris.graham@csaanich.ca)
7. Bob Thompson: [bob.thompson@csaanich.ca](mailto:bob.thompson@csaanich.ca)

It is helpful if you bcc (blind copy) us at:  
[centralsaanich.citizenvoices@gmail.com](mailto:centralsaanich.citizenvoices@gmail.com)

### ***Did you know that another 6 story building is proposed next to the Marigold Lands?***

The approved Marigold Lands\* development already has 361 units with approximately 722 people and 1000 vehicles.

The **proposed** 6 story rental building will add another 131 units with approximately 262 people and 300 vehicles.

That means a total estimated **1000 new residents** and **1300 vehicles** added to our community.

The Developer is **Starlight Investments**, with **\$30 billion of assets** under management and 70,000 residential suites.  
(Source: Company website)

\* Marigold Lands is the development on Lochside Drive, with condos, townhouses & rentals.

### ***Did you know that Central Saanich has exceeded its provincially-mandated Housing Targets?***

Also, the majority of the units on Marigold Lands are **not affordable housing\***. A small, one-bedroom unit rents for approx. \$2,500 per month plus parking up to \$120 per month!\*\*

**Does this really address the AFFORDABLE housing crisis??**



## **BITCOIN ATM SCAMS ALERT**

### WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Fraudsters are increasingly using Bitcoin ATMs to scam victims. Scammers impersonate government officials, banks, or police and pressure people to withdraw cash and deposit into a Bitcoin ATM.

### HOW THE SCAM WORKS:

Spoofer call: You receive a call pretending to be from CRA, ICBC, police or a bank.

Urgent threats: They claim you owe money or face arrest.

Cash withdrawal: They instruct you to withdraw cash from your bank.

Bitcoin ATM deposit: They send a QR code and coach you to deposit money into their Bitcoin wallet - stealing your funds!

### RED FLAGS TO WATCH OUT FOR:

- Pressure to act immediately
- Requests for payment through Bitcoin ATMs, e-transfers or gift cards
- Complex jargon or technical language

### HOW TO STAY SAFE:

- Never share personal information
- Never make payments via Bitcoin ATMs
- Do your research and use only reputable cryptocurrency

### HOW TO REPORT IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF THIS SCAM:

- Contact your local police department to make a report: 250-656-3931
- Report it to your bank and/or credit card company as soon as possible. Call the
- Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre: 1-888-495-8501 to report.
- Monitor your credit score through Equifax Canada or Transunion Canada.

# Community News

## Housing Transformation Contest Winners!

Congratulations to the Housing Transformation winners! Congratulations on your hard work, the results are amazing!

**1st:** Edwin Sam; **2nd:** Dolly Bill; **3rd:** Toby Joseph; **5th:** Cathy Jackson;  
**4th:** Deanna Underwood



## Employment & Training

### ID Clinic - July 22, 2025

We are currently assisting clients with the following:

- Birth Certificates for all Canadian provinces and territories
- BC Services Card & BCID
- Secure Status Card (SCIS) (renewal/replacement only)
- Booking ICBC appointments
- Mailing Address for applicants

What we don't do:

- Citizenship Applications
- PR Cards
- Birth Certificates from countries other than Canada



## JUNE 2025 - ELDERS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Elders Walking Group 1-2pm	3 Elders Second Hand Shopping	4 Elders Bannock and Tea 9-11am	5	6	7
8	9	10 Elders and Youth SENCOTEN class 3-5pm	11 Elders Fathers Day Lunch 11:30-1pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Elders Canning	19 Elders on the Water	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21 Indigenous Day
22	23	24 Elders and Youth SENCOTEN class 3-5pm	25 Elders Loonie Toonie 10-7pm	26 Elders Self Care Day 10am-3pm	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12



ST. AUT'S FIRST NATION

## Elders - Upcoming events

**Elders**  
**SECOND HAND**  
**Shopping**

**JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> 2025**

**10AM!**



Meet at the wellness building or reach out to Michelle/Kristal if you would like to be picked up!

**STÁUTW FIRST NATION**

**STÁUTW FIRST NATION**

**STÁUTW Elders**  
**Bannock and Tea**



June 4<sup>th</sup> 2025 @ 9am-11am  
Elders room (In wellness building)



**STÁUTW**  
**ELDERS FATHER DAY**

**JUNE 11, 2025**  
**11:30AM - 1PM**  
**STÁUTW GYMNASIUM**

**STÁUTW FIRST NATION**

**STÁUTW FIRST NATION**

**STÁUTW ELDERS AND YOUTH**  
**SENĆOŦEN CLASS**



June 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>  
3PM-5PM IN STÁUTW  
ELDERS ROOM



## Elders - Upcoming events



# Wellness Resources

## **STAUTW Wellness Supports & Services**

Support services are unique to your children and family's needs. Our time together is confidential, voluntary, and geared towards your needs. Please call 250-652-8353 to talk to Shezell and complete a confidential intake and understand how we can support you.

## **May 2025 STATS**

Family Advocates	24 STAUTW Families
Wellness Counsellors	52 STAUTW Community Members

## **Family Advocates**

We work closely with our clients to understand their unique needs and challenges, offering guidance, mediation, and support to ensure every family member thrives. Our Family Advocates are dedicated to achieving successful outcomes for STAUTW children and families through a collaborative approach between the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), NITL TUO Child and Family Services, and Jordan's Principle. We assist in navigating various external social services, educational opportunities, and healthcare resources.

## **Crisis Lines**

- KUU-US Crisis Line: 1-800-588-8717
- Vancouver Island Crisis Line: 1-888-494-3888
- Text Line: 250-800-3806 (6:00PM – 10:00PM PT)
- Mental health struggles: 310-6789 (24 hours)
- Medical emergency: 911



# Wellness News

## Wellness Counsellors

Our department currently has two counsellors, one male and one female. Alan Boden, MA just started in our department in May 2025, and Vassilena Johns, RBC, has been with us for about 15 months building relationships with community.

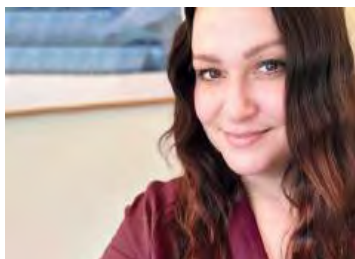


### **Alan Boden, M.A, RCC**

For the last 26 years, Alan has been practicing as a Registered Clinical Counsellor and is prepared to serve you - helping you to achieve your goals and make those wanted changes in your life.

Alan provides comprehensive and supportive mental health counselling, with caring, useful strategies to help you move forward in your life, whether in person, or virtually. He works with individuals, youth, couples, parents and families that need some help or guidance. Alan can help you with:

- Anxiety/Depression
- Low Self-Esteem
- Career/Life Transitions
- Grief and Loss
- Skill building around regulating feelings
- Eating Disorders
- Marriage & relationship counselling
- Addiction
- Recovery from traumatic experience
- Parenting



### **Vassilena Johns, RPC, Wellness Counsellor**

Vassilena is committed to supporting your holistic health and providing you with the tools and support to navigate life's challenges and improve your mental health. This role is vital in providing culturally attuned guidance and emotional support, tailored to your individual needs.

Our Wellness Counsellor assists with a wide range of issues including:

- Stress management
- Anxiety/depression
- Emotional well-being
- Improving lifestyle choices
- Grief and Loss
- Skill building around regulating feelings
- Overall health

Our one-on-one counselling also covers relationship issues, professional burnout, grief management, trauma healing, and helps build confidence and address insecurities. Our end goal is to enhance your spiritual, physical, mental and emotional health in a respectful and inclusive manner.

# Youth Calendar

## JUNE 2025 YOUTH CALENDAR

have questions? please contact Emma at [youthcoordinator@tsawout.ca](mailto:youthcoordinator@tsawout.ca)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	3 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm TSEYCUJAM	4 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm	5 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm TSAWOUT JAM	6 youth drop-in 2-4:30pm YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	7
8	9 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	10 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm TSEYCUJAM	11 youth drop-in + Homework Help 3-5:00pm	12 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm TSAWOUT JAM	13 youth drop-in 2-4:30pm YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	14
15	16 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	17 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm TSEYCUJAM	18 youth drop-in + Homework Help 3-5:00pm	19 Youth Swim Night @ Panorama Rec stay tuned for details :)	20 OFFICE CLOSED -STAT-	21 National Indigenous Peoples Day
22	23 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	24 Elders and Youth SENCOTEN class 3-5pm TSEYCUJAM	25 youth drop-in + Homework Help 3-5:00pm	26 Elders + Youth Bingo Fundraiser	27 Youth Summer Fundraiser! YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	28
29	30 youth drop-in 3-5:00pm YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	1 OFFICE CLOSED -STAT-	2	3	4 YOUTH PHONE LINE 3:30-4:30pm	5
6	7 STÁUTW FIRST NATION	8	9	10	11	12





**Youth Phone Line:**  
**236-638-9732**

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Call in anonymously to get support.  
Call, Text, Chat

**TSAWOUT COUNSELLING  
SUPPORT FOR YOUTH**

PHONE IN • EVERY MONDAY & FRIDAY (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS &  
STATUTORY HOLIDAYS) • FROM 3:30PM TO 4:30PM

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Having problems with  
your  
dentures?

contact your Community health  
rep for more information

**250-652-1149 EXT. 208**

or

**778-966-1669**



# Education Update

## **Highschool Grads**

The Education Department would like to acknowledge all the graduating high school students from our Nation. You should be so proud of yourself and your accomplishments in graduating. Your future is a head and looking bright!

1. Jordin Harry (Stellys)
2. Lamar Underwood (Stellys)
3. John-Joseph Williams (Stellys)
4. Elijah Mortimer-Underwood (Claremont)
5. Evelyn Underwood (ILC)
6. Marvin Pelkey (WLSS)
7. Amanda Joseph



## **Summer Camp Update:**

We will be taking in resumes for the Summer Camp, as soon as we have confirmation from the funders. A notice will be sent out.

We then will also be taking registration for the Summer Camp. We do have limited availability with limited staffing. Priority will go to Tsawout members and staff of Tsawout.

We will not be taking in 4-year-olds. They are too young to be in the Summer Camp which is designed for 5–11-year-olds.

## **Childcare Update:**

In our childcare program the cut off time is 9:00am, and if you are going to be late you need to call the Childcare program and let Jocelyn know that you will be late.

It is also helpful if you know that your child will not be attending that day, please let the staff know that they will be away.

Please ensure that you are signing your child in each day and signing them out each day. It is for safety reasons, so we know at all times how many children are in our care.

We are also working on finding qualified staff or subs that can support the childcare programs so we don't have to shut down for the day.

# Education Update

## Head Start Update:

We will be making some changes in the AHSOR programming, instead of "bead night" we will be hosting a "parent night" and will have various topics for parents/families/childminding and hear from the families about the various activities or special guests that that would like to learn more about. This will also be a time for those families connected to our Head Start staff and share a meal.

## All Programs Update:

We also will be **closing** for the last week in August and the first week in September to prepare and get ready for the new year in September and also taking professional development as a team. So please prepare for these times.

This is something we are working on so parent and families have consistent childcare, it takes time to organize and prepare for, so please be patient with the process.

**Caregiver & Me**  
MUSIC GROUP

music group with Deven Miles  
Wednesdays June 4 18th  
& 25<sup>th</sup> Times 12 - 1

@ Tsawout Band Office

**Play Café**  
Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup>  
1-4PM

For ages 0-6 years old

Connect with other  
parents and bring your  
little one for fun  
friends and snacks.

**CONTACT**  
Meagan James-Sam  
+1 (250) 936-4006  
or contact through  
Head Start FB Page



# Head Start Calendar & Events

## June 2025 PENÁWEN- CÉNTEKĪ HeadStart



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 gold stream Morning Stroll 10 am	3	4 Music & Me 12:30 - 1:30 PM Parent Night 5:30 - 7:30	5 Knitting with Lavina Olsen 1-4pm Location tba	6	7
8	9 staff training daycare closure	10 staff training day care closure	11 Tsawout FN Fathers day luncheon	12 Father's Day BBQ with special guest Aaron Sam 12:00 - 3:30	13	14
15	16 Ogden point	17	18 Music & Me 12:30 - 1:30 PM Parent Night 5:30 - 7:30	19 no program	20 Salmon ceremony with tsawout first nation 10:00 - 3:00pm	21
22	23 OFFICE CLOSURE stat	24 Movie night :) theatre to be announced	25 Music & Me 12:30 - 1:30	26 Play café @ the office 1-4	27	28
29	30 LAUWELNEW Monday stroll	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 training or office closure	This moon is the same colour as the pale grey sockeye salmon. The sockeye returns during this moon. The Salish art design represents the tide running swiftly through the reef net which is tied to the two canoes (SXEISCET)				music & me SPECIAL EVENT
			stroll	parent night	play café	

# Head Start Events



**Parent night**  
**June 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30 - 7:30 pm**

*GIFT CARD INCENTIVE  
PER FAMILY*

Please join Tsawout  
Head Start and a  
special guest Lavina  
Olsen

Spaghetti dinner  
with salad



HOSTED BY TSAWOUT  
HEAD START  
**WALKING GROUP**  
Monday June  
30<sup>th</sup>  
@ LAUWELNEW  
Meet in front of the band office @  
the benches

HOSTED BY TSAWOUT  
HEAD START  
**WALKING GROUP**  
Monday June  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>  
10 am  
Meet in front of the band office @  
the benches



**Thursday**  
**PLAY GROUP**

Rides available from the  
bus stop @ the back of the  
band office  
We leave from the  
band office @  
12:15PM

**SNACKS  
PROVIDED**

CENTENNIAL PARK  
THURSDAY  
JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>



# Childcare Centre Update



**Bubble fun!**



**Our New Playground!**



**Water Day**



**Enjoying spending time with our Elders**



We're always looking for more Elders and Knowledge Keepers to spend time with the children - your stories, presence, and teachings make a lasting impact. Please reach out if you're interested in joining us!



# Fisheries Update & Events

## Clam Surveys at TIXEN

Community Clam Surveys Underway at TIXEN! with Neil directing fisheries staff and two UVic Scholars supporting.

This summer, Tsawout Fisheries has launched community clam surveys to assess clam population health and conduct contaminant testing at key beach sites. These surveys are guided by the knowledge and presence of community Knowledge Holders, Elders Aaron Sam, Willard Pelkey and Allan Claxton joined us with two of his Grandchildren Oliver and Felix. It was a beautiful day! Surveys were conducted with support from Tsawout Fisheries staff and two UVic scholars who will be working throughout the summer low tides.

These efforts are part of a broader initiative to protect and better understand our vital shellfish resources. Keep your eyes and ears open during low tide—you might see the team in action!

If you're interested in learning more or would like to join the project, please reach out to Lais Chaves at [marineuseplanner@tsawout.ca](mailto:marineuseplanner@tsawout.ca).





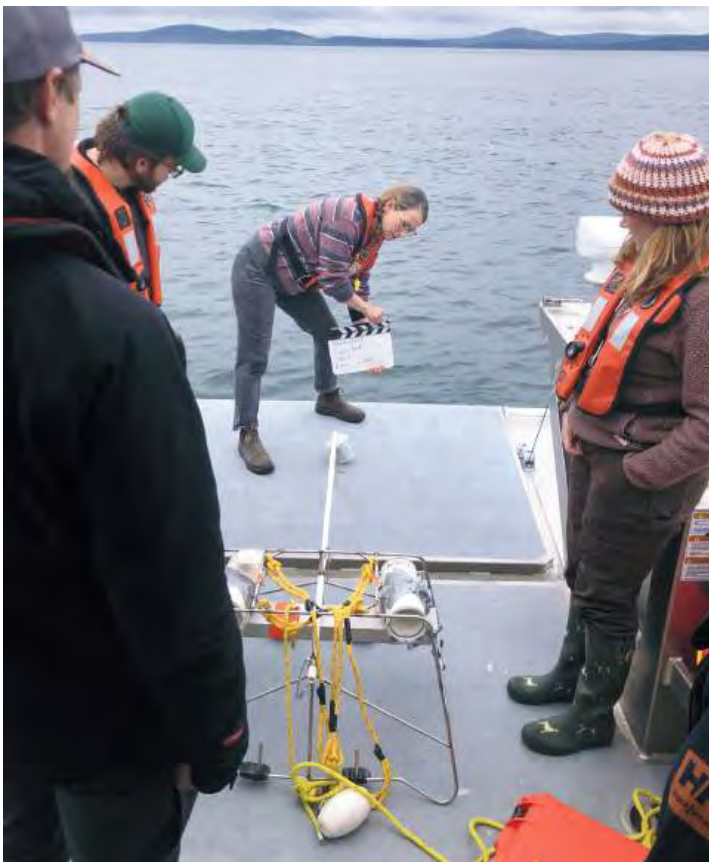
# Fisheries Update & Events

## Rockfish Conservation Area Monitoring Begins!

Tsawout Fisheries has officially kicked off a new initiative to monitor Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCAs) using Baited Remote Underwater Videos (BRUVs) to assess rockfish diversity and population numbers. This cutting-edge, non-invasive method allows us to better understand the health of rockfish populations within protected zones.

A successful pilot deployment was recently carried out by the Tsawout Fisheries team in collaboration with DFO Science at Darcy Island—yes, there's an RCA down there! This marks an exciting step forward in our ongoing efforts to support sustainable fisheries and habitat protection.

Stay tuned for more updates as the project unfolds. Curious to learn more or get involved? Contact Lais Chaves at [marineuseplanner@tsawout.ca](mailto:marineuseplanner@tsawout.ca).



# Fisheries Update



## Carson Truss, Fisheries Referrals Coordinator

Hi, I'm Carson Truss, and I work for the Fisheries Team as a Fisheries Referrals Coordinator.

I've come to Tsawout with a professional background in marine biology research and I'm interested in all things aquatic. Usually, you can find me in the Lands office but I'm hoping as time goes on, I'll be spending as much time on the water as I do at my desk. On the weekends you'll probably find me surfing, biking, or rock climbing.

Thank you for welcoming me into your team and I look forward to getting to know you all.

## Reminders from the ocean



STÁUTW FIRST NATION

HÍSWKE XÁELS SIÁM,  
today is a beautiful  
day to go harvesting  
clams!

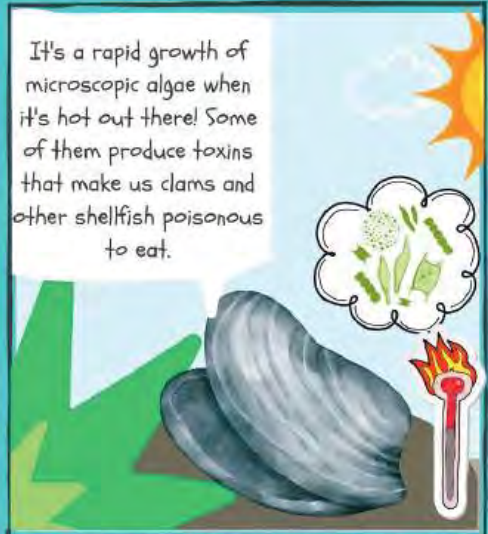


It would seem like it but  
there is something you  
need to know...

The water is not  
so good...



It's a rapid growth of  
microscopic algae when  
it's hot out there! Some  
of them produce toxins  
that make us clams and  
other shellfish poisonous  
to eat.



Oh no!!! Our  
people rely on  
clams for food  
and practice of  
our culture. How  
will we know if  
it's safe?

Right! If you  
contact STÁUTW  
fisheries and they  
will let you know.

They have been monitoring  
the waters every week  
since 2023

Thank you, friends. I'll make sure to tell  
everyone in our community. Together, we  
can ensure our safety and respect the  
wisdom of the ocean.



By listening to the ocean and its  
inhabitants, the community  
thrives in harmony with nature,  
protecting both their health  
and the delicate balance of the  
marine ecosystem.





# Fisheries Update & Events

## Tsawout at the International Seaweed Symposium 2025













From May 4–9, the International Seaweed Symposium 2025 was held in Victoria, bringing together seaweed researchers, knowledge holders, and practitioners from around the globe—and Tsawout was proudly represented on the international stage. Chief Abraham Pelkey delivered a powerful plenary address, sharing Tsawout's deep connection to the marine environment and the importance of Indigenous leadership in ocean stewardship. Jenn Claxton from the Tsawout Fisheries Department also took the stage as a panelist, offering thoughtful insights and representing the Nation with clarity and heart.

The entire Tsawout Fisheries team was present throughout the event, making strong connections and exchanging knowledge on seaweed ecology, restoration, and sustainable use.

It was a proud and inspiring week for all involved. HÍSWKE to everyone who helped carry Tsawout voices into this important global conversation!



# June Garbage, Compost & Recycling

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2  	3 	4	5	6	7
8	9  	10	11	12	13	14
15	16  	17 	18	19	20	21
22	23  	24	25	26	27	28
29	30  					

**Garbage Pickup:** Garbage and compost is managed by CCR and picked up every Monday

**Recycling (Bi-weekly):** If your recycling is missed or not picked up, call Emterra at 250-385-4399. Call by 11:00 AM the next day and they'll most likely be able to do a pick-up. If later, it would have to wait until the next pick-up date.

*Reminder that the Heavy Garbage Program has ended. Please do not leave heavy garbage on the side of the road. We continue to clean up the dumpsite on Longhouse Road from the previous years programs. Please discard your heavy garbage at local metal recycle or Hartland Landfill.*