



STÁUTW FIRST NATION

QENET SKÁ, PEŁ TFE STÁUTW

GATHERING AGENDA



ARTWORK BY BEAR HORNE



STÁUTW FIRST NATION

DAY 1 AGENDA

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

FIELD TRIP ARRIVAL TIMES

All tours meet in gymnasium of STÁUTW First Nation Administration Office.

Please attend only the tour you selected during your online registration.

Arrive on time to check in for your tour and complete your event registration. Please note: Tours will depart promptly and cannot accommodate late arrivals.

Whale Watching Tour

9:15 AM

*Hop on a whale watching trip with **Sidney Whale Watching** owned by STÁUTW First Nation. Enjoy the sites of our beautiful marine territory including whales, sea lions, seals, river otters and seabirds.*

QEN,T IPCA and Seaweed Farm Boat Tour

9:30 AM

Join STÁUTW staff on a tour of our Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA) QEN,T. We will drive past our seaweed farm that is owned and operated in partnership with Cascadia Seaweed. We will tour past our marine data collection buoy that provides critical information that supports the work carried out by STÁUTW's Fisheries Team. We will also demonstrate some of the techniques we use for ecological monitoring in QEN,T, including Dungeness crab surveys.

ṬIXEN Walking Tour

10:00 AM

Come join CÁSEMOT (Jennifer Claxton) for a tour of ṬIXEN (Cordova Spit), a sacred site that's home to sensitive ecosystems, rare plants and medicines, followed by a showcasing of our SXOLE (reef net fishing) canoe.

Then follow along with Neil Fowler and consultant Doug McCorquodale as they take you to our Salt Marsh and to learn about the monitoring and restoration efforts that are taking place to restore the natural ecological processes of this area. Throughout the tour, representatives from Guardians of Our Salish Estuaries (GOOSE) will also provide insight into the impacts associated with geese and the importance of goose management.

QENET SKÁ, PEṬ ṬFE STÁUTW
STÁUTW FIRST NATION | 7728 TETAYUT RD. SAANICHTON, BC



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AFTERNOON

Community Partner Booths (Gym) 1:00 PM

A dedicated space for this gathering will include a number of community booths and posters showcasing our initiatives, as well as organizations who are advancing important work related to Indigenous-led governance and marine stewardship. These Community Partner booths will be set up for the duration of the gathering.

STÁUTW Artists (Longhouse) 3:00 PM

STÁUTW artists will be set up in front of the longhouse showcasing and selling their handmade goods, offering a chance to support local creativity and take home meaningful pieces from this community.

EVENING

Shuttle pick up at the Sidney Pier Hotel (Only applicable to guests staying at the the Sidney Pier Hotel) 4:00 PM

Opening Ceremony (Longhouse) 4:30 PM

Please bring something to sit on as there can be soot on the bleachers from the smoke in the longhouse

Welcome to STÁUTW(Longhouse) 5:00 PM

Welcome from STÁUTW leadership and gathering organizers followed by WSÁNEĆ dancers and singers

Dinner (Longhouse) 6:00 PM

Opening the table with dinner provided by STÁUTW Catering

Shuttle service to the Sidney Pier Hotel (Only applicable to guests staying at the the Sidney Pier Hotel) 7:30 PM



STÁUTW FIRST NATION

DAY 2 AGENDA

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

QENET SKÁ, PEŁ TFE STÁUTW
STÁUTW FIRST NATION | 7728 TETAYUT RD. SAANICHTON, BC

MORNING

Shuttle pick up at the Sidney Pier Hotel (Only applicable to guests staying at the the Sidney Pier Hotel) **7:30 AM**

The proceeding gathering will occur in the gymnasium

Registration & Breakfast **8:00 AM**

Meet at STÁUTW First Nation gymnasium for registration for the gathering and enjoy breakfast with attendees

Opening Ceremony **9:00 AM**

The gathering will begin with a blessing by a STÁUTW Elder followed by a Welcome and Cultural Acknowledgement by STÁUTW Leadership and Conference Organizers

Introduction to QEN,T **9:45 AM**

QEN,T is STÁUTW's Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA) that was declared in 2023. A panel of STÁUTW leadership and staff will discuss an overview of QEN,T's establishment and their management priorities.

Speakers

Chief Abraham Pelkey STÁUTW Chief-In-Council
Chrissy Chen Principal Negotiator (STÁUTW)
Dr. Laís Chaves Interim Fisheries Manager (STÁUTW)
Jennifer Claxton Reef Net Revitalization Project Coordinator (STÁUTW)
Tim Clermont Executive Director (Guardians of Our Salish Estuaries)
Tom Rudolph Senior Officer (The Pew Charitable Trusts)

Health Break **11:15 AM**

From Governance to Grassroots: Strengthening IPCAs through Policy, Partnerships, and Storytelling **11:30 PM**

Through the lenses of governance, partnerships, and storytelling, this presentation will share insights into the collaborative work of advancing Indigenous-led conservation in B.C., the role of creative engagement in stewardship, and how youth mentorship and innovative financing models are helping shape a resilient future. This conversation bridges systems and stories – highlighting the many ways IPCAs are grounded in Indigenous knowledge and community action.

Speakers

John Henderson Vice President (First Nations Fisheries Council)
Dr. Briony Penn Environmental Activist/Artist



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STÁUTW Fisheries' Stewardship Program 12:00 PM

STÁUTW Fisheries is committed to protecting our traditional territories and marine resources. Our main goal is to lead in managing our lands and waters, based on our rights and Indigenous practices, to preserve our heritage and ensure a sustainable future. Laís Chaves introduces the STÁUTW Fisheries' Stewardship Program followed by a 20 minute video on the management initiatives carried throughout STÁUTW territory.

AFTERNOON

Lunch 12:30 PM

Community partners and STÁUTW Artists will have booths set up for attendees to browse during the break.

Guardian Programs 1:30 PM

A Guardian is a trained steward or monitor from an Indigenous community who plays a vital role in caring for the land, waters, and wildlife within their traditional territories. Guardians combine traditional knowledge with scientific methods to protect and manage the environment in alignment with their Nation's laws, values, and responsibilities.

Speakers

Richard Smith and the Haida Guardians..... Haida Nation
Octavio Cruz and the Pauquachin Guardians..... Pauquachin First Nation
Andrew Sheriff and the Malahat Guardians..... Malahat First Nation

Health Break 3:00 PM

Beyond Grants: Building Sustainable Economies Around IPCAs 3:15 PM

Sustaining an IPCA requires resources, partnerships, and creativity in aligning financing opportunities with community values. Funding can be one of the greatest challenges, but also an opportunity to reimagine economic empowerment through Indigenous-led stewardship.

Speakers

Eli Enns..... Co-Founder & CEO (IISAAK OLAM Foundation)
Les Bogdan..... Consultant (Cantech Consulting)
Steven Nitah..... Managing Director, Canada (Nature for Justice)



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EVENING

Closing Reflections for Day 2

4:00 PM

**STÁUTW Artists and Community Partner
Booths**

4:15 PM

Community artists will be showcasing and selling their handmade goods, offering a chance to support local creativity and take home meaningful pieces. These booths also provide space to engage with ongoing stewardship efforts, connect with partners organizations and STÁUTW representatives supporting STÁUTW's work.

Dinner

6:00 PM

Dinner provided by STÁUTW Catering

Shuttle service to the Sidney Pier Hotel (Only applicable to guests staying at the the Sidney Pier Hotel)

7:00 PM



STÁUTW FIRST NATION

DAY 3 AGENDA

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

QENET SKÁ, PEŁ TFE STÁUTW
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MORNING

Shuttle pick up at the Sidney Pier Hotel (Only applicable to guests staying at the the Sidney Pier Hotel) **8:00 AM**

Breakfast 8:30 AM

Meet at STÁUTW First Nation gymnasium for registration for the gathering and enjoy breakfast with other attendees

Opening Ceremony 9:00 AM

The day will begin with a blessing by a STÁUTW Elder followed by a preview of the gathering graphic recording designed by Nicole Jung

**Shared Waters, Shared Governance:
Managing IPCAs Within Broader Marine
Protection Frameworks 9:30 AM**

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) are a key conservation tool that can empower First Nations' stewardship responsibilities over their lands and waters. With no explicit recognition of IPCAs in the marine environment by any federal, provincial or territorial protected areas legislation in Canada, the process for navigating IPCAs alongside colonial jurisdictional tools is varied and complex.

Speakers

Chip Mountain IPCA Steward Coordinator (Mamalilikulla First Nation)
Romney McPhie Marine Technical Advisor (Mamalilikulla First Nation)
Tayler Brown Marine Protected Area Project Manager (Haida Nation)

Health Break 10:45 AM

**The Journey to Establishing and Commitment to
Maintaining an IPCA 11:00 AM**

This topic explores the lived experiences of Indigenous Nations and community partners who are establishing or maintaining an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA) – especially in marine or coastal areas, where jurisdictional overlap, ecological change, and colonial legacies are especially complex.

Speakers

Tayler Brown Marine Protected Area Project Manager (Haida Nation)
Alana Cross Marine Use Manager (Wuikinuxv Nation)
Lena Collins Marine Use Planner (Wuikinuxv Nation)
Daniel Hurry Guardian Manager (Wei Wai Kum First Nation)
Steven Nitah Managing Director, Canada (Nature for Justice)



STAUTW FIRST NATION

DAY 3 AGENDA

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

AFTERNOON

Lunch

12:30 PM

Community partners and STAUTW Artists will have booths set up for attendees to browse during the break.

The Saanichton Bay Marina Case, STAUTW Marine Use Law, and Cascadia Seaweed Farm

1:30 PM

These topics provide a series of events that reflect the strength of Indigenous governance in action, from protecting sacred places to shaping marine use laws and creating economic opportunity in harmony with the ocean. Each represents a pathway for asserting jurisdiction and stewardship.

Speakers

Mavis Underwood Councillor (STAUTW)
John Gailus Partner (Cascadia Legal)
Courtenay Jacklin Partner (Cascadia Legal)
Bill Collins Director & Founding Partner (Cascadia Seaweed)
Jennifer Clark Chief of Science (Cascadia Seaweed)

Closing Ceremony

3:00 PM

Key themes and insights from presentations and the message board will be discussed. Nicole Jung will present her graphic recording, capturing the voices, themes and spirit of the gathering. Acknowledgement and appreciation of panelists and participants will be expressed, followed by a **prize draw**. To conclude, a blessing by a respected STAUTW Elder will be offered along with words to carry forward as we part ways.

Gathering Conclusion

4:00 PM

Shuttle service to the Sidney Pier Hotel (Only applicable to guests staying at the the Sidney Pier Hotel)

4:30 PM

The **Gathering logo** was created by STAUTW artist **Bear (Doug) Horne**. Doug is son of master carver Doug LaFortune from STAUTW First Nation and Kathleen Horne from Pacheedaht First Nation. Doug has grown up in the STAUTW community, and since early childhood has been immersed in Coast Salish art, learning from his father, uncles and other family members who have generously shared their knowledge and experience with him Doug has dedicated 25 years to creating Coast Salish art, and has worked in various art forms including carved house posts, poles, sculptures, masks, paddles, panels and jewelry, and has also created countless graphic designs.

DAY 3 AGENDA

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2025