Hish-uk Tsa-wak, Uu-a-thluk & Iisaak

Reconciling Traditional Values and Modern Governance

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Huu-ay-aht First Nations
Overview

1. Huu-ay-aht Context
2. Modern Governance
3. Traditional Values
4. Triple Sustainability
The Huu-ay-aht First Nations

The Huu-ay-aht envision a strong, self-governing and self-reliant Nation. Iisaak will guide us as we work together to foster a safe, healthy and sustainable community where our culture, language, spirituality and economy flourish for all.
Demographic Snapshot

Population 730~

Dispersion
On-TSL 15%
Off-TSL 85%

Population Centers
Anacla & Port Alberni
Vancouver Island Area
Lower Mainland Area
Modern Governance
Treaty Timeline

1. Treaty Negotiation via BC Treaty Commission Process
2. Constitution Ratification - *Successful*
3. Treaty Ratification - *Successful*
4. Treaty Implementation - *On-going*
5. Effective Date: April 1, 2011
Huu-ay-aht Government Structure

**HUU-AY-AHT COUNCIL**
(7 total)
Performs two functions:
1. Legislative (law making)
2. Executive (day-to-day)

**PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY**

**STANDING COMMITTEES**
- Finance
- Economic Development
- Treaty Implementation
- Citizenship

**SYEE HA-WILTH & Huu-ay-aht Ha-wilh (Ha-wilh Council)**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**HUU-AY-AHT ADMINISTRATOR**
(& Staff)

Ha-houlthee represents the domains of the hereditary leaders of Huu-ay-aht - that which they have traditional authority over and responsibilities for. This includes physical features like lands and resources, but also the customs, values and teachings related to these areas that have been passed down through generations.
How Treaty is Different

1. Self-Government and Law-Making Authority over Community and Lands
2. Treaty Settlement Lands, not just private lands or reserve lands.
3. Ownership of Land & Resources on Treaty Settlement Lands
4. Own-Source Revenue Opportunities
5. Increased Certainty for Economic Initiatives and Investment
Huu-ay-aht Traditional Values
Historic Connections

The Huu-ay-aht First Nations has had the benefit of active and respected participation in government by its ha’wiih (hereditary leaders) that goes back many generations. It was through a mandate by our past and current tayii ha’wilth (head leader) that we pursued treaty and self-government.
Iisaak

Greater Respect
Personal and collective respect for the community and its people, traditional knowledge, the natural world, the metaphysical world and other peoples and communities.
Taking Care Of...

In this context, this is about taking care of present and future generations as well as taking care of the resources provided by the land and the natural world.

Uu-a-thluk
Hish-uk Tsa-wak

*Everything is One*

A notion of the interconnected, interdependent and reciprocal relationship between the people, the land and the wider world(s) in a physical, spiritual and social sense.
Whenever Huu-ay-aht undertakes an initiative to improve the conditions of its people and community, it must take into account the trade-offs, balance and acceptability of that activity. It measures and attempts to create a balance on three criteria...
Economic Sustainability

1. Awareness of our comparative advantages in the global economy in the Canadian context.

2. Only profitable businesses create long-term jobs and careers, necessary for nation-building.

3. Keep politics out of business management to the highest degree practical.
Social Sustainability

1. Must be acceptable to the community as determined by the elected government, hereditary leadership and the people.

2. Must have fair, direct and realistic opportunities for Huu-ay-aht people to find employment or otherwise benefit.

3. Must avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts on traditional harvesting opportunities on our lands.
Environmental Sustainability

1. Health & Safety Requirements
2. Minimize ecological footprint
3. Avoid, minimize or mitigate harmful impacts on the environment: habitat systems, air and water quality, and plant & wildlife.
Strong Partnerships for Mutual Benefit

1. Global economic conditions require active cooperation in BC and Canada between First Nations, Business and the Crown to compete effectively and create positive outcomes for all involved.

2. First Nations can bring legal certainty, socio-political legitimacy, regional influence and local knowledge to new initiatives and projects.

3. Communication, cooperation and collaboration needs to be on respectful and equal terms in order to create mutual trust, but the outcomes can be very beneficial for all involved.
Klecko, klecko!
Thank you, thank you!