

Volume 8 Issue 6

May 2008



BC ELDERS COMMUNICATION CENTER SOCIETY

# ELDERS VOICE

**ATTENTION:**  
ELDERS SUPPORT PEOPLE  
PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO MAKE  
COPIES OF THE ELDERS VOICE  
EACH MONTH FOR YOUR ELDERS.

EV'S 90th Issue!

For information on the Residential School Settlement's Common Experience Payment please call : Service Canada at 1-866-699-1742

**Please note:** Elders Gathering Forms are on pages 4-9 of this issue and can be found at our website [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) as well as the Host's own site [www.eldersgathering2008.ca](http://www.eldersgathering2008.ca)

### Quotes...Friendship

"No distance of place or lapse of time can lessen the friendship of those who are thoroughly persuaded of each other's worth." Robert Southey

"I praise you when you regard the trouble of your friend as your own." Plautus

"Life is to be fortified by many friendships. To love and to be loved is the greatest happiness of existence." Sydney Smith

"Be slow in choosing a friend, slower in changing." Benjamin Franklin

"There are no rules for friendship. It must be left to itself. We cannot force it any more than love." William Hazlitt

"Good are thy gifts, but better than all gifts is thy friendship." Unknown

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend." Martin Luther King

### Inside this issue

Easy Bakers Corner/Handy Tips/Website Information	2
List of Paid Support Fees	3
Elders Gathering FORMS	4-9
Youth Forum Report	10-11
Request for Elders Input	11
UBCIC CALLS ON BC	12
FNLCC Press Release	13-14

**Pg. 15:** Wilderness Committee Press  
**Pg. 16:** Forrest Gump Goes To Heaven  
**Pg. 17:** Two Letters Asking For Elders Contact and Input:  
 1. Fr. A Masters Student - Language  
 2. Fr. A Hospice Volunteer in CHWK  
**Pg. 18:** "Sea lice spread to BC's most lucrative fish stocks"  
**Pgs. 19-20:** Aboriginal Youth Internship Program  
**Pgs. 21-23:** K'omoks First Nation's Sage Hills Development  
**Pg. 24:** Back Page  
 Proverbs/Trivia/Bible Quotes  
 BC Elders Gathering Info Corner and BCECCS Contact Information

## Easy Bakers Corner – Chocolate Mint Cupcakes - makes 12

Cream 1/4 cup butter, softened with 3/4 cup granulated sugar until light and fluffy.

Melt 2 squares unsweetened chocolate in a small saucepan over very low heat. Beat melted chocolate into butter mixture.

Add 2 eggs, 3/4 tsp. Peppermint extract and 1/2 cup of chocolate milk. Beat until creamy.

Sift 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour with 1 tsp. baking soda. Mix into butter and chocolate mixture until well blended. Stir in 2 Tbsp. of crushed peppermint candies.

Pour batter into cupcake pan lined with baking papers.

Bake at 350°F for 15 to 18 minutes, or until done.

Remove from pan. Let cool on a wire rack.

For frosting, beat together 1/2 cup of butter, 2 Tbsp. Chocolate milk, and 1 1/2 cups of powdered sugar until light and creamy. Spread frosting over cupcakes.

Sprinkle with crushed peppermint candies.

### *Handy Tips:*

1. **Reheat Pizza:** Heat up leftover pizza in a nonstick skillet on top of the stove, set heat to med-low and heat till warm. This keeps the crust crispy. No soggy micro pizza.
2. **Reheating refrigerated bread:** To warm biscuits, pancakes, or muffins that were refrigerated, place them in a microwave with a cup of water. The increased moisture will keep the food moist and help it reheat faster.

## What Can you please share?

The following is a short list of Elders suggestions of what might be shared: Your local Newsletters/Upcoming Local Events/Prayers/Poems/Quotes/Comments/Storytelling/Drawings/Articles of Interest/Native Songs Lyrics/Wellness Seminars/Obituaries/Birthday Wishes, etc. **Submissions are best forwarded to me via email** by the 15th of the preceding month. If you are interested in providing articles, please do so, I look forward to hearing from anyone who wants to contribute to the content of your newsletter. Gilakasla, Donna Stirling

### **‘PRESERVING THE PAST’**

**New Elder’s Website: [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com)**

The *First Ever* Elder’s Website “Preserving the Past” is now online (as of Sept. 2002). Registration forms, booth forms, maps of the host territory, accommodation information, etc. concerning the Annual Elders Gatherings are available each year on the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s website [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) as soon as they are made available from each new host community.

Issues of your Elders Voice Newsletter are also posted on the website each month, though all issues still continue to be mailed out to your Elder’s Contact People throughout the province (to ensure that no one is left out because of a lack of access to the internet).

\*\*\*Comments? Please feel free to call in to the Communication Center - contact info is on the back page.\*\*\*

### Disclaimer:

Health articles, etc. are provided as a courtesy and neither the BC Elders Communication Center Society’s Board/Members or anyone working on its behalf mean this information to be used to replace your doctor’s and other professional’s advice. You should contact your family physician or health care worker for all health care matters. Information is provided in the Elders Voice for your reference only. And opinions contained in this publication are not those of Donna Stirling, Coordinator unless her name appears below the material.

# BC ELDERS COMMUNICATION CENTER SOCIETY

## 8th Year GRATITUDE LIST

Groups who have thankfully paid their \$250 'Yearly Support Fee'  
so far for the Dec. 2007 – Nov. 2008 Year

1. Gingolx Elders
2. Seton Lake Elders
3. Assembly of First Nations (Ottawa)
4. Mamalilikulla Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em Band
5. Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council
6. Hamatla Treaty Society
7. Hailika'as Heiltsuk Health Centre
8. Qualicum First Nation Council
9. Quatsino First Nation
10. Tobacco Plains Indian Band
11. Tansi Friendship Centre Society
12. Tsleil-Waututh Nation
13. Gitsegukla Band
14. Bridge River Indian Band
15. Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society
16. Sumas First Nation
17. Tsawwassen First Nation
18. BC Assembly of First Nation
19. Osoyoos Indian Band
20. Carnegie Community Centre Association
21. Wuikinuxv Nation
22. Mowachaht/Muchalaht
23. Wewaikum First Nation
24. Da'naxda'xw First Nation
25. Tseycum First Nation
26. Gitanyow Human Service
27. Uchucklesaht Band Council
28. Chehalis Indian Band
29. In-SHUCK-ch Nation
30. Wet'suwet'en First Nation
31. Douglas First Nation
32. Xaxli'p Indian Band
33. BC Transmission Corporation
34. Squiala First Nation
35. Ts'kw'aylaxw Elders Society
36. McLeod Lake Tse'khene Elders Society
37. Kitamaat Village Council
38. Tsawataineuk Band
39. Cook's Ferry Indian Band
40. Ki-Low-Na Friendship Centre
41. BCAAFC
42. Kwikwetlem First Nation
43. Musquem Indian Band
44. Adams Lake Indian Band
45. Kamloops Indian Band
46. We Wai Kai Nation
47. Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation
48. Ka:'Yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' Nation
49. Lower Kootenay Band
50. Carrier Sekani Family Services
51. Doig River First Nation
52. Lower Nicola Indian Band
53. Soowahlie Health Services
54. Tsewultun Health Centre
55. Union of BC Indian Chiefs
56. Fort St. John Friendship Society
57. Nuxalk Nation Elders
58. Hesquiaht First Nation
59. Ehattesaht Tribe
60. Kluskus Indian Band
61. Samahquam Band
62. Canoe Creek Band
63. Homalco Indian Band
64. Mount Currie Band Council
65. Kermode Friendship Society
66. Old Massett Village Council
67. Lytton First Nation
68. Spallumcheen Indian Band

Dear Elders Contact Person,

**\*If your office has paid the support fee, thank you very much for your assistance!**

**\*If your office/group has VOIDED the Invoice for this year and faxed it back in to this office, then thank you all very much, as it saves office time on this end having received a reply from you.**

**\*If you are in the process of paying the fee with the new fiscal year upon us, then thank you very much for your continued efforts!**

**\*Staff changes often occur, so please call into the office if you require the Invoice to be resent to a new Contact Person.**

**Thank you for your continued support!  
Donna Stirling, BCECCS Coordinator**

**KAIEN ISLAND ELDERS**  
P.O. Box 22092  
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8  
Phone: (250)627-5723  
Fax: (250)627-5724  
TF: 1-866-622-6180  
eldersgathering2008@gmail.com

# 2008 Elders Gathering

## July 6—9, Sunday to Wednesday

Jim Ciccone Civic Centre & Lester Centre of Arts

RE: **SPONSORSHIP or DONATION**—2008 Elders 32nd Elders Gathering

The Kaien Island Elders are seeking the support of community businesses through a Sponsorship program. Please consider being a sponsor or consider a donation.

The Kaien Island Elders has been a proud community organization in Prince Rupert since the early 1960's. We have taught and provided opportunities to youth and adults and we always stress "doing your best" and remembering others. Many of our Elders have been wonderful ambassadors for our City. They've been a very active group fundraising for every one of their events that they attend in and out of town. They donate to various organizations and groups. Our Elders are members of various First Nations that live in Prince Rupert. They are Tshimsian, Nisga'a, Gitksan, Tahltan, Cree, Metis and we have members from different countries that are considered "aboriginal". Their group is open to any elder that wishes to participate.

The Elders is completely operated by themselves, volunteers and is fully funded by their efforts of fundraising, grants and they do not rely on government or City funding. Without the generous support of our community the group would not exist. Sponsorship and donations will be an essential part of revenue for the upcoming Elders Gathering.

Sponsors will be identified on the advertising on signs at the Civic Centre . Donators will be publicly acknowledged in the local papers as well as letters. These ads will be viewed throughout the Northwest, Vancouver and anywhere else our guests are from.

Four Sponsorship Levels: \$200 Bronze Sponsorship— Your company name on Sponsor Board  
\$250 Sponsorship—your company name/logo on sign hung in Auditorium  
\$300 Sponsorship—Your company name/logo hung separately in Auditorium  
\$500 Sponsorship—Your company/logo hung separately hung on 4'x6' sign in Auditorium

All Sponsors will receive 2 complimentary tickets to our Catered Dinner on Monday, July 7, 2008 where again they will be publicly acknowledged. There will also be a special draw for sponsors. A committee member, Darlene, will be contacting you to follow-up on this letter.

**“The ELDERS  
ARE  
WATCHING “**

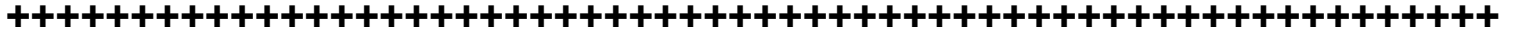
**Thank You for Your  
Consideration to  
our Request!**

**KAIEN ISLAND ELDERS**

P.O. Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8  
Phone: (250) 627-5723 Fax: (250)627-5723  
TF: 1-866-622-6180  
Email: [eldersgathering2008@gmail.com](mailto:eldersgathering2008@gmail.com)

**TRADITIONAL FOOD DONATION form**

**32<sup>nd</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering – 2008 JULY 06-09**



If it is possible for you, your family, your group or your Band and/or Nation to become a regular OR a one-time contributor of Traditional Foods for the Annual Elders Gathering please fill out this form and fax or hand deliver to the Co-ordinator and you will be contacted with more information:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ MailingAddress: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Other contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Fishing Licence #: \_\_\_\_\_ Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Traditional Food to be given:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Note: Please note that Fish should be “Round” which will alleviate the Elders having to clean before cutting, storing and cooking for the Gathering.

To Be Filled Out when Delivering to the Elders

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Received By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Elders Representative)

Amount Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
Product Delivered to: \_\_\_\_\_ for Storage

Please remember that due to Food Safe Regulations it is required that Wild Meat be processed in an approved facility (butcher/processor) and the various seafood items must be labeled with “Date and Place Gathered.”

*“The Elders Are Watching”*

KAIEN ISLAND ELDERS, Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8 (250) 627-5723  
Fax: (250)627-5724 1-866-622-6180

## **PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION**

32nd Annual Elders Gathering—Prince Rupert—July 6-9, 2008  
Jim Ciccone Civic Centre & Lester Centre of the Arts

P. O. Box 22092  
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8  
PHONE: (250) 627-5723  
FAX: (250) 627-5724  
EMAIL:  
elderesgathering08@hotmail.com

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Chief/Matriarch Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phoenetic Sounding of Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Native War Veteran # & Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Which War?" \_\_\_\_\_  
Family of Veteran Deceased? When? \_\_\_\_\_  
Traditional Territory: \_\_\_\_\_ BAND/NATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
GROUP Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Leader: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Elders Group Leaders will be asked to check in on behalf of their group**

---

### **HEALTH INFORMATION:** *(Keep medical/contact info with you at all times)*

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Conditions & Allergies:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Download Registration form at: [eldergsgathering2008.ca](http://eldergsgathering2008.ca)

(No Cash or personal cheques; money orders or certified cheques please:

**Mail Completed Registration and Payment to:**

**PROVINCIAL ELDERS CONFERENCE, Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8**

## **REGISTRATION FEE: \$30.00 per person**

“The BC Elders Communication Centre Society strongly supports the initiating of a nominal Registration fee to assist—to some small degree—with the enormous costs associated with hosting thousands of Elders and support people attending the Annual BC Elders Gathering this year...with the Elders Gathering now in its 32nd year, and likely to attract between 2-4000 attendees, it is no longer the responsible course of action to incur a lot of costs for administration etc. and not charge a nominal fee” Donna Stirling Coordinator, BC Elders Communication Center Society

**Register BY MAY 01, 2008 and you will be entered to win \$400.00**

**Register by JUNE 01, 2008 you will be entered to win \$200.00**

**Registration WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED after JUNE 20, 2008**

  
**THE ELDERS ARE  
WATCHING**

**KAIEN ISLAND ELDERS** P.O. Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8

Phone: (250) 627-5723 Fax: (250)627-5723 TF: 1-866-622-6180 Email: [eldersgathering2008@gmail.com](mailto:eldersgathering2008@gmail.com)

## INFORMATION BOOTH Registration Form

32<sup>nd</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering – 2008 JULY 06-09

Jim Ciccone Civic Centre & Lester Centre of the Arts

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ P.C. \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Other: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

First Nation (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF INFORMATION you will provide: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PAYMENT:**

Information Book registration fee is payable with Registration. Payment accepted only by Certified Cheque or Money Order in the amount of \$300.00 (No Personal Cheques will be accepted)

Upon Receipt of Registration with Payment, you will then receive Confirmation of payment and an assigned floor space (there will be no changing spaces

*SET UP CAN BEGIN SUNDAY – July 06 – 9 A.M.*

Booths Are to be Set Up no Later than MONDAY – July 07 – 9 A.M.

### **GUIDELINES/NOTES:**

- The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering Committee and Volunteers are not responsible for lost or stolen items or injury
- Information Booths may not sell Food, Drinks or Raffle tickets
- One table and 2 chairs will be provided for each Booth
- Note of Cancellation – must be provided no later than June 22, 2008
- Any cancellations after June 22, 2008 will NOT be issued refunds
- No burning will be allowed in the Booth area due to Respiratory ailments
- If a booth is not set up by 9 AM Monday, July 07, 2008 of the Gathering the Booth space will be re-rented with no refund being issued to the original renter
- Electrical outlets will not be available
- If you do not hear from us within 10 days of submitting your registration please call 1-866-622-6180 or 250-627-5723 to confirm that the form was received.

Download Information Booth Registration form at: [www.eldersgathering2008.ca](http://www.eldersgathering2008.ca)

Mail Completed Registration form and Payment to:

PROVINCIAL ELDERS CONFERENCE, Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8

For more Information contact Darlene, Co-ordinator,

"The Elders Are Watching"

1-866-622-6180 or 250-627-5723 or at

email [eldersgathering2008@gmail.com](mailto:eldersgathering2008@gmail.com)

I agree to adhere to all of the above guidelines:

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

KAIEN ISLAND ELDERS Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8  
(250)627-5723 Fax (250)627-5724 1-866-622-6180  
Email: eldersgathering08@hotmail.com

## ARTS & CRAFTS VENDOR Registration Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Nation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
TYPE OF CRAFT: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT:** \*Vendor Booth registration fee is payable with registration.  
**Payment accepted only by certified cheque or money order in the amount of \$125.00**  
(No personal cheques will be accepted)

\*Upon receipt of registration with payment, you will then receive confirmation of payment and an assigned floor space (there will be no changing spaces)

SET UP CAN BEGIN SUNDAY- JULY 06—9 am

BOOTHS ARE TO BE SET UP NO LATER THAN 9 AM July 07

### GUIDELINES/NOTES:

- The 32nd Annual BC Elders Gathering Committee and volunteers are not responsible for lost or stolen items or injury.
- Information Booths may not sell food, drinks or raffle tickets
- One table and 2 chairs will be provided for each booth
- Note of Cancellation—must be provided no later than June 22, 2008.
- Any cancellations after this date will not be issued refunds.
- No burning will be allowed in the booth area as many Elders have respiratory ailments.
- If a booth is not set up by 9AM on Day 1 (July 7) of the gathering, the booth space will be re-rented with no refund being issued to the original renter
- Electrical outlets will not be available
- If you do not hear from us within 10 days of submitting your registration, please call to confirm that it was received.

Download Vendor registration form at: [eldersgathering.ca](http://eldersgathering.ca)

**MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION and PAYMENT TO:**

PROVINCIAL ELDERS CONFERENCE, Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8

For more info, contact Darlene, Coordinator, 250-627-5723 or 1-866-622-6180

[eldersgathering2008@gmail.com](mailto:eldersgathering2008@gmail.com)

I agree to adhere to all of the above guidelines

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



KAIEN ISLAND ELDERS Box 22092, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8  
(250)627-5723 Fax: (250)627-5724 1-866-622-6180  
Email: eldersgathering2008@gmail.com

# VOLUNTEER Registration Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

## SKILLS and INTERESTS

Education Background: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies, Interests, Skills \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a particular type of volunteer work in which you are interested (Check all that apply. Enter your preference for the areas you are interested in with a "1", "2", etc. If not interested, leave the space empty.

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Registration          | <input type="checkbox"/> souvenir/Sales               | <input type="checkbox"/> Billeting         | <input type="checkbox"/> Security           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Driver                | <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Seating           | <input type="checkbox"/> Elders Escort      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food— Server          | <input type="checkbox"/> Food—Cook                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Food—Helper       | <input type="checkbox"/> Food—Clean-up      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic               | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical—Set up             | <input type="checkbox"/> Tech—sound        | <input type="checkbox"/> Tech—lighting      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment—seating | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment—elders seating | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertain-tickets |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertain-cleanup     | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertain-security           | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertain-back    | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertain-programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Set-p/Take down       | <input type="checkbox"/>                              | <input type="checkbox"/>                   | <input type="checkbox"/>                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                       | <input type="checkbox"/>                              | <input type="checkbox"/>                   | <input type="checkbox"/>                    |

At what times are you interested in volunteering?

Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ Monday \_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_

There are times during Sunday-Wednesday I cannot do volunteer work \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a valid Driver's Licence? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have access to an automobile you can use during the gathering?

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ (keep receipts as will be reimbursed for gas)

How did you hear about the 32nd Elders Gathering? \_\_\_\_\_

Any other info you would like us to know at this time? \_\_\_\_\_

Need your size for t-shirt to be used for the volunteer days: \_\_\_\_\_

I will adhere to all rules and regulations from the Committee while volunteering for the Gathering? Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, April 11, 2008

**Mini report from the "Youth and Elders Focus Group" which took place on March 28, 08 in Richmond, B.C.**

To whom it may concern,

It was truly an honor to sit and listen to the many youth who spoke during the forum. We must give these young people great and loud applause, they went to the forum very well prepared, and they had done their research on housing. Both for 'On Reserve and Off Reserve.'

The youth delegates were from as far away as Fort Nelson, Hartley Bay, Fort St. John, Prince Rupert, Prince George, Vancouver, Penticton, Langley, and Kamloops.

Elders were selected and invited to attend the forum, there were ten elders, each representing their territories. I was invited to attend by the B.C. Elders Council to represent this region as well as the Council.

During the opening comments, several elders did recall having their own homes built without any help from the banks etc. Members of their villages came forward and did offer to help with their neighbors in building a strong family dwelling. That was a norm back then, home building was a community effort. Unfortunately today that does not happen.

Youth brought forward discussions and were seeking solutions.

1: Low paying jobs and poverty is a significant barrier to adequate housing, many of our youth and our elders have to settle for substandard housing in poor and sometimes unsafe neighborhoods. Elders living on a fixed income on reserve also face great difficulty obtaining a house.

2: Many elders do not feel comfortable living in "senior homes" that they feel are too modern, the design being more to the European tastes, and often do not allow for traditional practices, practices such as that of their territories. Of course each nation has a different tradition that they feel should be included in the daily regimen.

The elders and youth feel that each nation should be consulted in the construction of their buildings. The decor of the elders' homes should have the local shrubs etc. and the indoor design such as the lounge area should reflect the territory of the people.

Elders feel isolated from their families, culture, traditions, and heritage, all which can lead to despondency, loss of hope, and illness in.

Senior housing is often very expensive and elders on fixed income cannot afford to live in these homes.

Housing--this is a major concern for the youth, for students, single parents, parents whose children have moved out and there is just the two left at home. Everyone said this needs to be corrected, and affordable housing is a must for our First Nations people.

There were concerns brought up of inadequate home care or assisted living options for elders, both on reserve and off reserve. Many elders need medical attention and there is not enough support for this in areas such as home care with workers who speak the language and understand the cultures and traditions of their elderly clients.

Housing ---this is a major issue with the youth; it is a very emotional topic, because it is such an integral part of people's lives. They feel housing should be empowering; people should feel good about where they live and where they come from. Their homes, it was said, should be a place of refuge...a safe place to go after the day is over.

For centuries past our native people have always held the home as the one safe place, our children learned life skills that enabled them to live and to survive in the safety of their homes but today the places some of us live in are not so ideal.

Traditionally, families came together to build houses as a community. There should be training provided by government to the communities so that more people learn the skills of how to build good housing, this would allow members to build their own homes which would instill a sense of pride and ownership.

**Strong suggestions put forward to the government:**

Elder Housing needs to be a priority.

Land needs to be more accessible so people can build and own their own homes.

Land needs to be added to Reserves so communities can grow.

Funding such as mortgages should be accessible to elders on fixed incomes.

(All these should be accessible to elders who wish to build or purchase their own homes.)

If ever the lending institutions of Canada see the benefits of supporting the elders in their endeavors of home-ownership it would truly be a day of great celebration.

Many elders living off reserve are feeling a deep desire to return to their birth place and live their last days in happiness in their home communities and everyone should strive to help make that happen for elders so that they achieve their dreams of being back home.

Forum Hosted by;

Catherine Palmer --- Facilitator/ Consultant

Michael Izen --- Facilitator/ Consultant

Regrets by- B.C. Office of Housing and Construction Standards. (OHCS)

In friendship,

Jeanette McMaster, Elder and member of B.C. Elders Council

---

**REQUEST FOR ELDERS INPUT**

Good day,

My name is Kimberley and I write to you today in hopes of some direction. I am currently preparing research for a book I am writing concerning Aboriginal adoptions into non-Aboriginal families (the 60's Scoop).

I have been encouraged to see if it would be possible to meet and speak with a group of elders regarding their experiences and memories concerning this topic.

Again, any guidance you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely and with regards, Kimberley L. Cloutier 250-532-3370

## UBCIC Calls on BC to Fully Implement BC Representative for Children and Youth Recommendations

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 16, 2008

(Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver, BC) - The Union of BC Indian Chiefs is calling on the Ministry of Children and Family development to fully implement the recommendations made by the BC Representative for Children and Youth, Mary-Ellen Turpel-Lafond. The recommendations were made in a report entitled "Amanda, Savannah, Rowen and Serena: From Loss to Learning" released earlier on this morning before the Legislative Standing Committee in Victoria. The recommendations follow an in-depth independent investigation conducted by Turpel-Lafond into the deaths of four children in the North Region.

The Office of the BC Representative of Children and Youth is an independent officer of the BC Legislature, which was created as a result of the recommendation made by the Hon. Ted Hughes in his report "BC Children and Youth Review: An Independent Review of BC's Child Protection System" released on April 7, 2006, which outlined in 62 key recommendations on improvements to the child welfare system in British Columbia. The Union of BC Indian Chiefs has supported Mary-Ellen Turpel-Lafond's work since her appointment in November 2006.

The Union of BC Indian Chiefs has reviewed the 11 recommendations made by Turpel-Lafond and calls on the Ministry of Children and Family Development to demonstrate the same level of commitment to implement these recommendations as they committed to the recommendations of the Hughes' Report.

"We have achieved significant and historic agreements such as the New Relationship, the Transformative Change Accord and Memorandum of Understanding for Aboriginal Children. Any implementation MCFD plan must be in keeping with the spirit, intent and commitments of these historic agreements," said Chief Phillip. "We need to be full partners in the development of any and all plans with our communities' priorities at the forefront."

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip has further commented "We cannot afford to continue to look the other way as our communities are in crisis. With the barrage of youth suicide rates, combined with drug- and gang-related violence, it is more important than ever that we continue our focus on our children. We cannot afford to stand by silently as the child apprehensions occurring in our communities reach epidemic proportions".

The Union of BC Indian Chiefs has strived to work in conjunction with the Ministry of Children and Family Development towards the creation of Regional Aboriginal Authorities for the past five years. The full implementation of these 11 recommendations made by Turpel-Lafond would give a clear demonstration of on-going efforts by the Ministry of Children and Family Development to work with BC First Nations exercising their inherent right to the health and well-being of our children.

For more information:

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, UBCIC (250) 490-5314

The UBCIC is a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

# Canada Continues Offensive Campaign Opposing UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 17, 2008



Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver - In a statement delivered to a meeting of the Organization of American States Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("OAS Working Group") in Washington DC, the Canadian Government has declared that it will no longer actively participate in negotiations on the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("Draft American Declaration").

Canada has formally reserved its position on the final text under negotiation. However, if the final document "does not adequately address Canada's concerns", Canada has indicated that it would attempt to block consensus unless two conditions are met: the document adopted clearly indicates that Canada does not support it and that there is an explicit understanding that the text therefore does not apply to Canada.

In doing so, Canada has continued its offensive campaign against the rights of Indigenous people in Canada and around the world by maintaining its rejection of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("United Nations Declaration") as the "starting point or minimum outcome for further negotiations" on the Draft American Declaration.

"In its statement to the OAS Working Group, the minority Conservative government has again demonstrated immense disrespect for the human rights of indigenous peoples", said Grand Chief Edward John of the First Nations Summit political executive. "Canada's attempts to "pick and choose" which human rights standards apply to it violate the rule of law in Canada and threaten the international human rights system. We urge the Canadian government to play a constructive role in deliberations on the Draft American Declaration, to drop its unreasonable conditions and to not block consensus on the final text."

The United Nations General Assembly overwhelmingly adopted the United Nations Declaration on September 13, 2007. Canada was one of only four States to vote against the United Nations Declaration.

The rights recognized by the United Nations Declaration constitute the "minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world". The majority of American States have supported the use of the United Nations Declaration as the baseline for negotiations on the Draft American Declaration.

Canada's statement to the OAS Working Group directly defies the motion passed by a majority of Parliamentarians in the House of Commons on April 8, 2008 calling upon the Government of

Canada to endorse the United Nations Declaration, and for Parliament and the Government of Canada to "fully implement the standards contained therein".

"OAS member states have a duty to ensure the minimum standards set out in the United Nations Declaration are upheld in the draft American Declaration" stated A-in-chut (Shawn Atleo), Regional Chief of the BC Assembly of First Nations. "BC First Nations urge the Government of Canada to continue working with OAS member states and indigenous peoples to build on the important foundation of international human rights standards set out in the historic United Nations Declaration. Let us work together to leave a legacy for future generations that we can all be proud of."

"Canada, under the leadership of Prime Minister Stephen Harper continues to wantonly exploit the lands and resources of the indigenous peoples of this country. It is despicable to witness the lengths governments and companies have gone to use Canadian courts to jail Indigenous people for protecting their territories," said Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. "We call on the entire international community to witness that Canada has prosecuted and imposed jail terms on indigenous leaders of the Agonquin Ardoch and Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nations for their efforts to protect the birthright of their children and human rights of their peoples. Once again, at the international level, Canada has disgraced itself by demonstrating its racist and highly prejudicial attitudes towards the land and human rights of Indigenous Peoples here in Canada and throughout the world."

-30-

The First Nations Leadership Council is comprised of the political executives of the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs.

The Council works together to politically represent the interests of First Nations in British Columbia and develop strategies and actions to bring about significant and substantive changes to government policy that will benefit all First Nations in British Columbia.

For more information please contact:

Grand Chief Edward John  
778-772-8218  
First Nations Summit Political Executive

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip  
President, UBCIC:  
250-490-5314

Ryneld Starr  
BC Assembly of First Nations:

The UBCIC is a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

## **Bill 15 to enrich private power producers, shock ratepayers and harm the environment says Wilderness Committee**

Vancouver, BC ~ The Wilderness Committee today sounded the alarm about legislation rapidly moving towards becoming BC law. Bill 15, the Utilities Commission Amendment Act, is waiting for Royal Assent in the BC Legislature, before becoming law.

Two years ago the government of BC passed Bill 30, which removes local community government oversight of private power projects. Now Bill 15 aims to significantly reduce the oversight of the BC Utilities Commission over private power projects. Bill 15 will largely strip the Utilities Commission of its independence and make it impossible to stop bad deals without the consent of the provincial government.

Currently, the BC Utilities Commission has the authority to order a stop to agreements made by the BC Government to purchase power from private producers if those agreements have prices set so high they are a bad deal for provincial ratepayers. Formerly the BCUC was tasked with protecting the best interests of British Columbians in regards to power purchases by BC Hydro.

“The result of this proposed law will come back to shock anyone who pays an electrical bill in this province,” said Joe Foy, Wilderness Committee Campaign Director. “Many of these proposed projects would not be possible, if not for the inflated rates that Bill 15 will facilitate. With the passage of Bill 15 the Utilities Commission becomes nothing but a toothless lap dog on a choke chain catering to the private power producers’ every desire.”

The Wilderness Committee believes that Bill 15 has been introduced because of the gold rush of private power developers currently staking hundreds of rivers and streams across the province. “The BC Government doesn’t want to be embarrassed by the Commission telling the public that these private developers are being paid too much for their power,” said Gwen Barlee, Policy Director with the Wilderness Committee. “This Bill greases the skids for private power developers and leaves the public out in the cold.”

“As a result of Bill 15, we are going to see environmental degradation in streams where private power projects should never have been built and we’ll see our power bills go through the roof,” commented Foy.

The Wilderness Committee opposes the passage of Bill 15, is calling for the repeal of Bill 30 and supports an immediate moratorium on private hydropower development in BC.

-30-

### **For more information contact:**

Joe Foy 604-683-8220 (work tel) or 604- 880-2580 (cell tel)  
Gwen Barlee 604-683-8220 (work tel) or 604-202-0322 (cell tel)

**Sue Fox** | Director of Publications, Communications and Special Events  
**Wilderness Committee** | Canada's largest membership-based wilderness preservation organization  
**Office:** 4 Floor, 341 Water St., Vancouver, BC V6B 1B8  
**Mail:** 227 Abbott St., Vancouver, BC V6B 2K7  
**Office:** 604-683-8220 | **Fax:** 604-683-8229  
**Web:** [www.wildernesscommittee.org](http://www.wildernesscommittee.org)

## FORREST GUMP GOES TO HEAVEN

The day finally arrived. Forrest Gump dies and goes to Heaven. He is at the Pearly Gates, met by St. Peter himself. However, the gates are closed, and Forrest approaches the gatekeeper.

St. Peter said, 'Well, Forrest, it is certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must tell you, though, that the place is filling up fast, and we have been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The test is short, but you have to pass it before you can get into Heaven.'

Forrest responds, 'It sure is good to be here, St. Peter, sir. But nobody ever told me about any entrance exam. I sure hope that the test ain't too hard. Life was a big enough test as it was.'

St. Peter continued, 'Yes, I know, Forrest, but the test is only three questions.'

**First:** What two days of the week begin with the letter T? **Second:** How many seconds are there in a year? **Third:** What is God's first name?

Forrest leaves to think the questions over. He returns the next day and sees St. Peter, who waves him up, and says, 'Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers'

Forrest replied, 'Well, the first one -- which two days in the week begins with the letter 'T'?

Shucks, that one is easy. That would be Today and Tomorrow.'

The Saint's eyes opened wide and he exclaimed, 'Forrest, that is not what I was thinking, but you do have a point, and I guess I did not specify, so I will give you credit for that answer. How about the next one?' asked St. Peter.

'How many seconds in a year? Now that one is harder,' replied Forrest, but I think and think about that, and I guess the only answer can be twelve.'

Astounded, St. Peter said, 'Twelve? Twelve? Forrest, how in Heaven's name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?'

Forrest replied, 'Shucks, there's got to be twelve: January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd... '

'Hold it,' interrupts St. Peter. 'I see where you are going with this, and I see your point, though that was not quite what I had in mind....but I will have to give you credit for that one, too. Let us go on with the third and final question.

Can you tell me God's first name?' 'Sure,' Forrest replied, 'it's Andy.'

'Andy?' exclaimed an exasperated and frustrated St Peter.

'Ok, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name Andy as the first name of God?'

'Shucks, that was the easiest one of all,' Forrest replied. 'I learnt it from the song, 'ANDY WALKS WITH ME, ANDY TALKS WITH ME, ANDY TELLS ME I AM HIS OWN.'

St. Peter opened the Pearly Gates, and said: 'Run Forrest, run.'

(Emailed in to pass on...Author Unknown)

Dear Ms. Stirling,

My name is Natalie Baloy and I am a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia. I am conducting a research project for my Masters thesis, and I would like to interview you for my project.

I am investigating the challenges of native language learning in Vancouver. Over twenty percent of Aboriginal people in British Columbia live in Vancouver. The Aboriginal languages of British Columbia are in a critical endangered state. Promoting urban native language learning needs to be a priority in language revitalization initiatives. I would like to talk with you about your experiences working with the Aboriginal population in British Columbia. The knowledge and insights provided by individuals, like yourself, who are working in organizations and educational institutions providing services to British Columbia's Aboriginal peoples may help to illuminate a path of action to bring concerns of urban First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples together with movements to revitalize and retain the endangered native languages in British Columbia and Canada.

If you agree to meet with me, your participation will include a one half-hour to one-hour interview at the time most convenient to you. The interview can be conducted in your facility or another location that is convenient for you. If you are interested, please contact me by telephone at (604) 761-3387 or by email at [nbaloy@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:nbaloy@interchange.ubc.ca). If you would prefer that I talk with someone else in your organization, please feel free to have them contact me.

Sincerely,

Natalie J.K. Baloy  
Masters Student  
Department of Anthropology  
University of British Columbia

---

Hello, my name is Tracey-Lee Rein

I am a volunteer at the Chilliwack & Abbotsford Hospice Society and I will soon be taking further training in order that I can volunteer at the new Cascade Hospice, which will be opening in June. As a hospice volunteer it is my job to bear witness to the dying and death of a person. To make sure that the dying person lives fully, comfortably and with love until death and provide compassion, empathy and love to the family and friends who are left behind with their grief. In order to provide the most empathetic and compassionate care to **everyone** I would be most honoured and grateful if I had the opportunity to speak with an elder in your community. It is extremely important to me to be able to be knowledgeable and sensitive to the needs, beliefs and wishes of First Nations clients when a loved one is facing the end of this life.

I am a Vajrayana Buddhist and in my belief system there are certain things we do to ensure the environment for the dying person is as perfect as possible. Because I am unfamiliar with the beliefs surrounding death and dying and beyond of First Nations I would dearly love to attend any teaching I could receive. It is my greatest wish to provide comfort in a culturally sensitive manner. I am not sure who to contact with this request but hope you can perhaps put me in touch with someone who can help me.

Thank you so much for your time in regards to this request.

With deep respect and Metta  
Tracey-Lee Rein  
604-858-2823  
rlnv@lookieloo.net

**Sea lice spread to British Columbia's most lucrative fish stocks**  
*Campbell River Salmon and Herring worth nearly \$80 million to province last year*

**Echo Bay, British Columbia, March 31, 2008** - The latest scientific paper on sea lice reports that infestations have spread to juvenile pink, chum, and sockeye salmon as well as juvenile herring near Campbell River fish farms. The study was published online by the North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

The Campbell River area is known as the Salmon Capital of the World, and accounts for a large portion of the \$233 million a year in sport fishing tourism that the British Columbian government collects.

Alexandra Morton R.P.Bio. (Salmon Coast Field Station), Dr. Richard Routledge (Simon Fraser University) and Dr. Martin Krkosek (University of Alberta) looked at 4,700 young wild salmon near and distant to fish farms in 2005 and 2006 throughout the Discovery Islands.

"We found four times as many wild juvenile salmon were infected with sea lice near fish farms than distant from the farms," says Alexandra Morton. "Then in 2006 when most of the farms were empty, the sea lice declined".

"This is the same pattern we see in the Broughton Archipelago," added Dr. Routledge, "Where there are farm fish the young wild salmon are infested with lice. Remove the farm fish and the sea lice problem disappears."

The study looked at other variables, including salinity and temperature, but found that farm fish were the only significant factor contributing to the infestations.

The study was made possible through the dedication of several commercial fishermen who did the sampling.

Pink and chum salmon were the primary study focus, but juvenile herring were also examined and found infested with lice. The herring were tiny and still lacking scales suggesting high vulnerability. This is the first report of sea lice on herring this young.

In addition, juvenile sockeye were discovered to be infested near the farms. Last summer, commercial salmon fishing was closed on the south coast because so many of the Fraser River sockeye failed to come home. Some of the sockeye that went "missing" last year were likely infested with sea lice in 2005 when they migrated to sea.

"We did not test the DNA of the sockeye we examined," explains Dr. Martin Krkosek. "However, we know that many Fraser River sockeye migrate through our study area."

The report concludes there is urgent need to implement policy that protects wild salmon from farm fish.

Currently Minister Pat Bell has called for more drug use to control lice. But Morton disagrees, saying that using drugs creates concerns for environmental and human health. The drug (Slice) has not been approved for use by Health Canada and may impact important stocks of crab, shrimp, and prawns.

Morton concluded: "The only measure that is going to work is separating the farm and wild salmon. This can only be achieved by completely closed containment technology or moving the farms. If nothing is done now, I worry that Canadian salmon stocks will suffer the same fate as European salmon stocks that have declined dramatically in fish farming regions.

*\*To review the scientific paper, visit <http://afs.allenpress.com/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1577%2FM07-042.1>*

For more information, or to arrange an interview, contact:

Alexandra Morton 250-949-1664 [wildorca@island.net](mailto:wildorca@island.net)

Richard Routledge (in the field) [routledg@stat.sfu.ca](mailto:routledg@stat.sfu.ca) and Skype at rick.routledge

Hello All!

Greetings from the provincial government's *Aboriginal Youth Internship Program*, one of the most exciting programs for Aboriginal Youth in BC.

**We are pleased to announce the launch of our application for next year's program. Eligible Aboriginal Youth will have until MAY 16th, 2008 to apply for the program beginning Sept. 01, 2008. Please forward to all interested Aboriginal Youth in your community or organization.**

*How would you like to increase youth engagement in your region? Research and develop policy in Victoria? Learn hands on skills in the Interior and Northern Region? Develop strategies to assist Coastal communities? Work on Aboriginal communications and engagement strategies? Assist Ministries with developing Aboriginal protocol guidelines and agreements?*

*All of these work opportunities and much more are available through the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program. Develop your skills, earn while you learn, and make a difference...*

**This is a paid internship program:**

**Aboriginal Youth Intern  
Victoria, Vancouver, or Regional Offices  
(\$1533.26 biweekly, \$39,864.76 annually)**

Please see the **job posting** at:

[http://employment.gov.bc.ca/index.php?view\\_posting=041585&rLoad=1](http://employment.gov.bc.ca/index.php?view_posting=041585&rLoad=1) for full details on how to apply.

## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Aboriginal Youth Internship program offers a unique and innovative paid 12-month internship program that is culturally responsive and supported. Successful candidates will work for 9 months in a government Ministry followed by 3 months in a selected Aboriginal organization.

You will learn many aspects of public service and provincial government processes, participate in workshops across the province, develop your leadership and professional skills, develop strong research and cohort bonds, set a vision and create a path for your future career development.

**Some of the exciting areas you could be working in include:**

- Ministry specific projects and work assignments
- Policy analysis and development
- Youth engagement
- Community liaison
- Event and conference coordination
- Program development and delivery
- Project management
- Communications
- Budget process
- Service integration

We have many placements available in several Ministries across the province. The list of placements is available on the job posting and attached to this email in a Word document.

**To be eligible for the program you must be:**

- Aboriginal (First Nations status or non-status, Métis, Inuit)
- Under 30 years of age as of September 1st, 2008
- Residing in BC

And have:

- A minimum of grade 12 with some post-secondary education or equivalent work, life and education experience;
- Leadership experience, either through work or volunteering; and
- Good knowledge of Aboriginal governments/organizations and the Aboriginal population that you represent (i.e. First Nations Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, Métis Nation BC, BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, others).

*We're looking for youth who communicate well, have strong writing and research skills, embrace learning opportunities, enjoy new challenges and are engaged in their Aboriginal, youth or academic communities.*

For more detailed information about this opportunity, please view the full job posting:

[http://employment.gov.bc.ca/index.php?view\\_posting=041585](http://employment.gov.bc.ca/index.php?view_posting=041585) and please read the **INTERN JOB PROFILE**.

**TO APPLY:**

1. Go to the online posting: [http://employment.gov.bc.ca/index.php?view\\_posting=041585](http://employment.gov.bc.ca/index.php?view_posting=041585)
2. Click on the link that says: **Apply for this job**
3. Fill in the online application form.
4. Submit your resume and cover letter electronically. In your cover letter, please tell us your top three placement choices based on the list of Ministry placements available.
5. Submit your two Reference Forms (you can download the form and your reference can mail or fax it in)

**ENCOURAGING ALL TO APPLY**

I want to thank everyone who has been in contact with me or our program assistant Katie Clegg about the program. I've really enjoyed meeting and speaking with everyone and hearing more about what you want out of your life and career, and how you would like to have the opportunity to make a difference with the provincial government.

I also want to encourage all eligible Aboriginal youth to apply. **Each year is a new year, and we have more placements available across the province that will meet more youth's specific qualifications, interests, skill sets, and career choices!**

Thank you for your interest in the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program.

<<Ministry Placements Available.doc>>

Best regards,  
Sasha

**Sasha Hobbs, MA**  
Project Manager  
**Aboriginal Youth Internship Program**  
BC Public Service Agency  
Tel. 604.765.3193  
Fax 604. 924. 2244  
<http://www.bcpublicservice.ca/AboriginalYouthInternship/>



## **K'ómoks First Nation and Sage Hills Developments sign Memorandum of Understanding**

**COURTENAY, BC (March 26, 2008)** – The Sage Hills project, a 2,083-acre sustainable living community proposed for the Comox Valley took another step forward with the historic signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the K'ómoks First Nation and Vancouver Island-based Sage Hills Developments (SHD). Technical studies are already underway and the formal rezoning, community involvement and entitlement processes will begin in April.

For millennia, the K'ómoks First Nation has lived in a territory that stretches from Kelsey Bay south to Parksville and includes Hornby and Denman Islands. Sage Hills Developments Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Vancouver Island-based IAC-Independent Academies Canada Inc. and is the vision of SHD Chairman Ted Everett.

The Sage Hills project will contribute in a very substantial way to the living and learning environment of the region. It will include the development of a university and associated facilities, a K-12 school, wellness facilities and health programs, corporate retreat, golf courses, a university village center and sport training facilities to be managed by IMG.A.

The community will endeavor to minimize the impact on the environment by being planned around "Green Principles" that will meet or exceed the sustainable guidelines the Provincial Government is aspiring to meet. The development will also be designed with the aim of celebrating the culture of the K'ómoks First Nation providing economic and cultural opportunities for the Band.

"We have a profound respect for the K'ómoks people and we acknowledge and respect that our proposed community falls within their traditional territory," said Dave Russell, President of Sage Hills Developments. "We support their continuing efforts to maintain their identity and culture, create economic and cultural stability for future generations, and foster pride in their heritage and traditions. Our principles for Sage Hills are premised on respect for the land and environment and focuses on making a positive contribution to the region's quality of life, today and for future generations."

On hand to sign the MOU on behalf of the K'ómoks First Nation were Chief Ernie Hardy, Councillor Stewart Hardy and Councillor Barb Mitchell.

"We want to acknowledge the respectful approach that Sage Hills has taken in recognizing our nation's historical relationship with these lands," said Chief Ernie Hardy. "The K'ómoks Nation will benefit economically, socially and culturally from the beginning of the project and into the future because of educational, cultural and business arrangements that will be developed with Sage Hills."

-30-

### **Contact:**

Shannon Price  
Sage Hills  
(250) 413-7696

Melinda Knox  
K'ómoks First Nation  
(250) 339-4545



## **BACKGROUND**

### **About Sage Hills**

Sage Hills Developments Ltd. is proposing a sustainable community development on a 2,083-acre property in the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island. The development is envisioned as a community built around education, sports, wellness and lifestyle components, providing opportunities for progressive, inspired living and learning. Sage Hills will bring a global perspective and environmental stewardship to a progressive community development.

The focus of Sage Hills revolves around three themes: Sustainable Community, Sports and Education. These themes will guide the master planning and development process. Further expansion of these themes will occur in concert with the surrounding community's input. Sage Hills Developments intends to begin the community involvement and entitlement process in early 2008, as master planning is currently underway.

Sage Hills Developments Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Vancouver Island-based IAC-Independent Academies Canada Inc. (IAC) and is the vision of the Chairman of Sage Hills Developments, Ted Everett.

### **Location**

- The Sage Hills site is a 2,083-acre site in the southern portion of the Comox Valley (population of 60,000) on Vancouver Island.
- The Sage Hills property is located within 10 kilometers of the municipalities of Courtenay and Comox and three kilometers from the Village of Cumberland.
- The site is in close vicinity to the Pacific Ocean, provincial parks, and the Mount Washington Alpine Resort.
- Sage Hills is easily accessible from the new Inland Island Highway and is served by Comox Valley International Airport, which has been expanded for commercial jetliners.

### **Project Highlights Include:**

- IMGA branded and managed Sports Academy for junior colligate, adult/corporate and professional athletes and coaches
- University Canada West campus
- Private kindergarten to Grade 12 school
- Variety of residential communities to include incorporate green housing concepts and student housing, seniors, multi-family, single family, and affordable housing
- Sage Hills Village, designed as a pedestrian friendly "Commons" environment that provides integrated academic, residential, commercial, wellness and community arts & culture spaces along with hosting facilities for community events and festivals
- Hotel and spa and a comprehensive wellness component

## **BACKGROUND**



### **Timeline**

- Sage Hills has an expected 10 – 20 year build-out
- Sage Hills was announced in April 2005
- The property was purchased from Comox Timber in September 2006
- The project will begin the formal rezoning and entitlement process in 2008

### **Education**

Sage Hills has negotiated an agreement with LearningWise International Inc. (LINC) to operate the main campus of University Canada West and a kindergarten-to-grade-12 private school at Sage Hills, along with other educational programs and facilities as they develop. Sage Hills and UCW will create state-of-the-art private educational facilities that reflect a global perspective combined with a dedication to social diversity and advanced learning. The goal is to cultivate confident, knowledgeable and caring leaders who have the ability to embrace a sense of purpose and understanding.

### **Sports**

Sage Hills has negotiated a partnership with IMG Academies (IMGA) of Bradenton, Florida to provide planning input and brand management for an IMG Academies at Sage Hills. This academy will be the first of its kind in Canada and the third in the world.

We envision an IMG Academy that will integrate junior, collegiate, adult/corporate and professional athletic and leadership programs to give athletes the tools to compete at the highest levels and excel under the pressures of competition. The sports offerings under consideration will include hockey, skating, golf, soccer, baseball, basketball and mountain sports.

### **Sustainable Community**

The physical heart of the Sage Hills community is envisioned to be a village commons where education, sports, wellness, events, and a hotel will be located. The center will incorporate village-style streetscapes, pedestrian-friendly roadways and tree-lined avenues. There will be vehicle-free areas within the village, and walking and bicycle paths. Through research, demonstration projects, leadership and innovation, the overarching design philosophy will bridge today's knowledge of sustainable living and future possibilities.

Lifestyle, real estate and community partnerships round out the key components of the sustainable theme. The fundamentals of sustainability require that the entire human experience be addressed in a sustainable way – from how we recreate to how we live in our homes.

**For more information please visit [www.sagehills.ca](http://www.sagehills.ca).**

**BC ELDERS  
COMMUNICATION  
CENTER SOCIETY**

**Trivia:** 1. Women blink nearly twice as much as men.  
2. There are more chickens than people in the world.  
3. A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.

**1415 Wewaikum Road  
Campbell River, B.C. V9W 5W9**

***PROVERBS:***

1. The darkest hour is just before the dawn.
2. Laughter is the best medicine.
3. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.
4. Faith will move mountains.
5. Don't burn your bridges behind you.
6. Better safe than sorry
7. Let not the sun go down on your wrath.

**Phone: 1-250-286-9977  
Fax: 1-250-286-4809  
Toll-Free: 1-877-738-7288  
Coordinator: Donna Stirling  
Website: [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com)  
Email:  
[bcelders@telus.net](mailto:bcelders@telus.net)**

***BIBLE QUOTES:***

**"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up..."**  
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

**"Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned..."**  
Proverbs 31:30-31

**'ELDERS VOICE' ISSUES  
ARE SENT OUT TO  
COMMUNITIES BY THE  
1st OF EACH MONTH.**

**If your area's copy is not received in a timely manner please call in to the office.**

***Please mail, fax, email, or call in your  
Special Wishes/Community Events !!***

**Happy! Happy! Birthday To All Elders Born in May!!**

**TAURUS** - The Enduring One (April 20 - May 20) Charming but aggressive. Can come off as boring, but they are not. Hard workers. Warm-hearted. Strong, has endurance. Solid beings that are stable and secure in their ways. Not looking for shortcuts. Take pride in their beauty. Patient and reliable. Make great friends and give good advice. Loving and kind. Loves hard - passionate. Express themselves emotionally. Prone to ferocious temper-tantrums. Determined. Indulge themselves often. Very generous.

**National Survivors Support Line**

24 Hours a day - 7 days a week - 1-866-925-4419

The Indian Residential School Survivors Society provides free, immediate, confidential, non-judgmental, support for residential school survivors across Canada.

**ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING INFORMATION CORNER**

**32nd Annual BC Elders Gathering**

**July 7, 8, 9th 2008 (with early registration on July 6th, 2008)**

**Host: Kaien Island Elders**

**Mailing address is: P.O. Box 22092 Prince Rupert, BC V8J 4P8**

**Phone: (250) 627-5723 Fax: (250) 627-5724**

**Coordinator: Darlene Harris Wolfe**

**Email address: [eldersgathering2008@gmail.com](mailto:eldersgathering2008@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.eldersgathering2008.ca](http://www.eldersgathering2008.ca)**