

Haida Gwaii News

Issue 60

SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

FREE

Ottawa reviewing wastewater funding request

By Stacey Brzostowski

Daaing Giids' proposed wastewater treatment plant is now under federal review, with the Village seeking an estimated \$16 million to help close the project's remaining funding gap.

In an Aug. 28 letter, federal Housing and Infrastructure Minister Gregor Robertson confirmed that the Build Communities Strong Fund received the Village's expression of interest for the project on July 15.

The federal government said the submission will be considered as part of the fund's assessment process, with priority given to shovel-ready projects that can begin within the next 12 months.

The Village has estimated the treatment plant could cost as much as \$39 million. The Province has already committed \$20 million toward the project, while the Village is seeking about \$16 million from the federal government. No federal construction funding has yet been approved.

Daaing Giids is one of the few communities in Canada still discharging untreated wastewater into the ocean. The Village currently sends sewage into Bearskin Bay after preliminary screening through a grinder station.

In 2025, Environment and Climate Change Canada issued a Fisheries Act order requiring the Village to bring its wastewater system into compliance by Dec. 31, 2030.

Council selected Smith Point East earlier this summer as the preferred location for the future treatment plant following engineering, environmental, operational and financial reviews.

The Village says the project faces unusually high costs because of Haida Gwaii's remote location, difficult terrain and geotechnical conditions. Federal funding has supported planning and design work, but not construction.

The federal Build Communities Strong Fund includes a direct-delivery stream for major infrastructure projects, including water and wastewater systems, climate adaptation and community infrastructure. The fund is intended to support projects that can move quickly into construction.



Jags Brown Photo

Racers line the beach at Pure Lake on Sept. 5, ready to begin the swim portion of the hlGa hlk'aats iihlangaa - Agate Man Triathlon. The annual event brought swimmers, cyclists and runners together, with organizers reporting a record turnout of young participants this year. Find more photos on page 9.

Tax deduction still snagged by address problem

By Stacey Brzostowski

Months after Haida Gwaii residents began reporting problems claiming the full Northern Residents Deduction, the Village of Daaing Giids is again asking Ottawa to fix what may be a simple problem with how the islands are listed.

In an Aug. 31 letter to federal Finance Minister François-Philippe Champagne and the Department of Finance, the Village said it continues to hear from residents whose Northern Residents Deduction claims are being questioned or disallowed because of their addresses. Haida Gwaii is listed as a Zone A prescribed area, but the individual communities where residents actually receive their mail are not.

Haida Gwaii was restored from Zone B to Zone A for the 2025 tax year following years of advocacy. The change allows eligible residents to claim the full Northern Residents Deduction rather than the lower deduction available in Zone B. But problems began surfacing during this year's tax season as residents who had correctly claimed the increased deduction received review and reassessment notices from the Canada Revenue Agency.

Literacy Haida Gwaii, which operates a Community Volunteer Income Tax Program, raised the issue earlier this summer after hearing from numerous residents. Executive director Beng Leng Favreau said CRA staff contacted while helping affected taxpayers were themselves unaware that Haida Gwaii had moved to Zone A. Under the previous Zone B listing, individual communities including Daaing Giids, Sandspit, Skidegate, Tlell, Port Clements and Masset appeared by name. Under the new Zone A listing, only Haida Gwaii appeared.

Skeena-Bulkley Valley MP Ellis Ross took the issue to then-National Revenue Minister Champagne on June 30. Ross said his office had received multiple reports of residents being reassessed or selected for review after claiming the expanded deduction. Literacy Haida Gwaii reported similar cases involving returns prepared through both volunteer tax clinics and professional tax preparers.

In one case cited by Ross, a Haida Gwaii small business owner received a refund that was later challenged by the CRA and was asked to provide extensive docu-

mentation proving residency and medical travel. The resident repaid the disputed amount rather than risk penalties while the issue was reviewed.

The Village now believes the way Haida Gwaii appears in federal guidance may be contributing to the continuing problem. As its letter points out, Haida Gwaii is the name of the archipelago, not normally the community listed in a resident's mailing address.

The Village is asking the CRA to add Daaing Giids, Skidegate, Sandspit, Miller Creek, Lawn Hill, Tlell, Port Clements, Masset, Old Massett and Tow Hill to its list of Zone A communities alongside Haida Gwaii.

The letter describes the return to Zone A as a welcome change following years of advocacy, but says clearer federal guidance is needed to ensure eligible residents are not denied the deduction because their tax return lists Masset, Tlell or another Haida Gwaii community rather than simply "Haida Gwaii."

The Aug. 31 letter is included in the agenda for Daaing Giids council's Sept. 9 meeting.

FEATURED



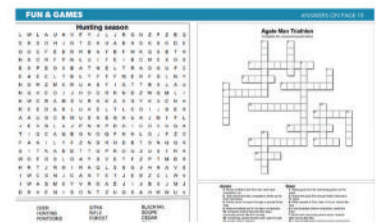
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Columnist

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Feature

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GAMES
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LOCAL NEWS

Port Clements moves to charge for lengthy FOI requests

Port Clements is moving to add a \$40-an-hour processing fee for larger Freedom of Information requests after Village staff reported an increase in formal information requests.

At a Sept. 3 special meeting, council gave first three readings to an amendment to its fee bylaw that would allow the Village to charge \$40 per hour when processing a general FOI request takes more than the first three hours.

The Village already charges a \$10 application fee for general records requests. Requests for a person's own personal information are free, while Indigenous governing entities are exempt from the application fee.

In a report to council, staff said the Village has seen an increase in formal Freedom of Information requests and that some have been large enough to require significant staff time beyond the initial three-hour threshold.

The report does not say how many requests Port Clements has received, who is making them or what information is being requested.

The proposed amendment would also rename the Village's existing "Historical Information Research Fee" as an "Information Research Fee."

Council gave the bylaw first, second and third readings Sept. 3.

Five Rogers tower sites clear local consultation stage

Five proposed Rogers telecommunications tower sites across Haida Gwaii have cleared another step in the approval process.

The North Coast Regional District voted Aug. 21 to advise Rogers that consultation requirements had been satisfactorily completed for proposed towers at Nadu, Sandspit, Alliford Bay, Tlell and Mayer Lake. The NCRD said nearby property owners and occupants had been notified, a 30-day public comment period was provided and no significant land-use issues were identified through the consultation.

The five towers are part of a larger Rogers plan first brought forward earlier this year to expand wireless service along Highway 16 between Masset and Sandspit. The overall project includes eight new wireless sites, six of which require new tower structures. Proposed tower locations include Nadu, Port Clements, Mayer Lake, Tlell, Alliford Bay and Sandspit.

Rogers has said the expansion is intended to improve wireless coverage along the Highway 16 corridor and bring 4G and 5G service to areas that currently have limited or no Rogers coverage. One

of the proposed sites near Mayer Lake, for example, is planned as a 53-metre self-supporting tower carrying both 4G and 5G equipment.

Public consultation on the project began earlier this year, including open houses in Masset, Port Clements and Skidegate. Rogers also accepted written comments from residents and businesses as part of the federal consultation process.

The Port Clements tower follows a separate local process because the Village is its own land-use authority. Rogers has proposed a 53-metre tower at 180 Highway 16, about 750 metres northeast of Port Clements. The tower is also planned to carry 4G and 5G equipment.

The Aug. 21 NCRD resolution does not mean construction will begin immediately. Telecommunications towers are federally regulated through Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, and local consultation is one part of the approval process.

The latest records do not provide a construction timeline or a date for when the new Rogers service could become available on Haida Gwaii.

Daaing Giids assessment finds room for hundreds of new homes

Daaing Giids appears to have enough land within its existing boundaries to meet projected housing needs for decades, according to a new Complete Communities Assessment going before council Sept. 9.

The assessment estimates the Village will need about 220 additional housing units over the next 20 years, but identifies potential capacity for up to 794 units on existing lots considered suitable for development.

The report does not predict that all of those units will be built. Instead, it looks at where development could potentially occur based on available land, existing lots, infrastructure and other planning factors.

The assessment also found that future growth is likely to be uneven across the community.

It identifies the Oceanview Drive corridor as the most infrastructure-ready area, with the strongest available capacity for sanitary sewer, stormwater management and water services.

The report also points to gaps in how easily residents can reach daily needs. The central part of Daaing Giids has the strongest access to services, while the west side has relatively high population density but only moderate access. Rural residential areas closer to Skidegate Landing were identified as having lower access to daily needs.

A community survey included in the assessment found 69 per cent of respondents said they were able to meet most of their shopping needs in Daaing Giids. Of those who shopped elsewhere, Skidegate, online shopping and off-island trips were among the most common alternatives.

When asked to rank daily needs, respondents placed the grocery store, hospital and pharmacy at the top.

The assessment also estimates demand for an additional 31,490 square feet of retail space in Daaing Giids, suggesting room for more local commercial development if population and demand grow.

Local developers interviewed for the report identified familiar barriers to building on Haida Gwaii, including rising property values, limited housing supply, labour shortages, high construction costs, freight delays, financing challenges and a shortage of building inspectors.

Council is scheduled to consider adopting the Complete Communities Assessment at its Sept. 9 meeting.

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Port Clements advances in bid for Whitecaps mini-pitch

Port Clements has advanced to the second stage of a provincial program that could bring a professional-quality mini soccer pitch to the community.

The Village submitted an Expression of Interest for the Mini Peaks Legacy Project in July, with council confirming the proposed site would be Community Park.

At a Sept. 3 special meeting, the project returned to council under the heading "Mini Peaks Legacy Project – Phase 2," indicating Port Clements had moved beyond the initial application stage.

Under the program guidelines, Phase 2 is reserved for applicants shortlisted from the first round. Communities reaching this stage are asked to provide more detailed information about community need, programming plans, financial capacity and the technical readiness of the proposed site.

The technical review can include geotechnical and environmental assessments, confirmation of funding for site preparation and a construction schedule. The proposed site must also meet size, access and long-term maintenance requirements.

The Mini Peaks Legacy Project is a FIFA World Cup 2026 legacy initiative backed by the Province of B.C., viaSport and Vancouver Whitecaps FC. The program plans to install 18 to 20 mini-pitches across the province.

Advancing to Phase 2 does not mean Port Clements has been selected for a pitch. Final approval would come after further technical and community assessment.

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LOCAL NEWS

West End sewer expansion could carry connection costs

Property owners in the west end of Daajing Giids could eventually have the option to connect to the municipal sewer system, but the cost of doing so may be significant.

Daajing Giids council is scheduled to consider sending a letter to affected residents at its Sept. 9 meeting as the Village continues exploring an extension of sewer service to properties not currently connected to the municipal system.

The Village is looking at grant funding that could cover the cost of extending municipal sewer infrastructure to individual property lines. Property owners would still be responsible for the work required from the property line to their home or building.

One of the largest potential expenses identified by the Village is a sewage pump, estimated at approximately \$25,000. The

figure is preliminary, with actual prices still to be determined. Property owners could also face municipal connection, latecomer or hook-up fees, along with pipework and other installation costs.

Council previously voted July 27 to proceed with design work for the West End Sewer Servicing Project, including backflow protection and infrastructure intended to support future connections.

The Sept. 9 letter is meant to gauge how much interest exists among affected property owners before the Village goes further with the expansion.

The possible sewer extension is being considered alongside the Village's larger wastewater treatment project, which is intended to bring Daajing Giids into compliance with federal wastewater requirements.

Masset fire truck gets new life in Gold Bridge for \$1

A retired Masset fire truck is getting a second life with a volunteer fire department more than 1,000 kilometres away, for the price of one dollar.

Masset council voted Aug. 17 to sell a 1997 GMC 7500 fire truck to Scott Holden, who is purchasing it on behalf of the Gold Bridge Volunteer Fire Department in the B.C. Interior.

Holden told the Village in an Aug. 13 letter that the truck will be donated to the Gold Bridge department at no cost.

For the small community, the truck will be more than just another piece of equipment.

Holden wrote that efforts to establish a fire department in Gold Bridge had stretched back roughly 30 years. For many years there was little interest, although he served as acting fire chief and held annual practices for residents.

That changed after the Gun Lake wildfire threatened the community in 2023.

Holden said he acted as fire chief and incident commander during the emergency and helped organize efforts to protect the town. After the immediate threat passed, he again began working to establish a volunteer fire department. This time, with younger residents getting involved and the wildfire having demonstrated the risk facing the community, interest grew.

"We are a department starting from nothing and rely on donations to make this work," Holden wrote, adding that the Masset truck would be a major asset for the community.

The truck leaving Masset is one of the Village's aging pumpers. Earlier this year, staff reported that both Masset Volunteer Fire Department pumpers were 29 years old and needed replacement because their pumps no longer passed inspection and could not be restored.

The 1997 unit identified in earlier Village records as Pumper 2 is a five-seat truck with a 1,000-gallon-per-minute pump and an 800-gallon water tank. Staff reported it had several mechanical and equipment issues, although it had passed its annual commercial vehicle inspection.

Masset has meanwhile been working to replace its aging fire apparatus, including pursuing a used certified pumper as an interim replacement while the department plans for newer trucks in the coming years.

For Gold Bridge, the old Masset truck now gets another chapter

Haida Gwaii manufacturing initiative seeks \$550,000

A proposed Haida Gwaii manufacturing initiative is seeking approximately \$550,000 from the Athlii Gwaii Revitalization Fund to expand local value-added wood production and develop small-footprint housing products using Haida Gwaii timber.

The project is being developed through a partnership involving Taan Forest, North Pacific Timber Corp. and Cedar & Stave Building Systems. According to the request included in Masset council's Sept. 9 agenda package, the initiative is intended to establish local manufacturing capacity that would create products from timber harvested on Haida Gwaii rather than relying only on raw material leaving the islands.

The proponents say the project would begin with timber and dimensional lumber production, with a longer-term goal of expanding into finishing, assembly and full-scale construction of small-footprint housing products.

The Stage 2 Athlii Gwaii application is scheduled for submission Sept. 15. Masset council is being asked to provide a letter of support for the proposal.

The requested funding would be used for manufacturing equipment, tools and machinery, safety equipment and systems, site preparation and supporting infrastructure, as well as workforce training and equipment certification.

The proposal says the project could

create skilled jobs in manufacturing and wood processing while providing hands-on training and certification opportunities for local workers. It also identifies increased access to locally produced building materials as a potential benefit.

Housing is another part of the proposal. The proponents say the initiative could strengthen local housing and construction capacity by producing building materials and small-footprint housing products on Haida Gwaii.

The project also identifies economic diversification as a goal. According to the material provided to council, increasing local manufacturing could allow more value from timber harvested on Haida Gwaii to remain within local communities.

North Pacific Timber business manager Danny Robertson, who submitted the request for support, described the project as an effort to establish "a foundation for the growth of a value-added forest economy on Haida Gwaii."

The application package also states that the project is intended to support local employment, increase the supply of building materials, strengthen housing and construction capacity and keep more forestry revenue circulating within island communities.

Masset council is scheduled to consider the request for a letter of support at its Sept. 9 meeting.

Masset Airport to receive \$10.85M for pavement and drainage work

Masset Airport will receive more than \$10.85 million in federal funding for airfield pavement and drainage improvements.

Transport Minister Steven MacKinnon announced the funding Aug. 26 as part of a \$23.5-million investment in six B.C. airports through Transport Canada's Airports Capital Assistance Program.

The Masset Airport allocation totals \$10,852,330 and is intended to support improvements to airfield pavement and drainage.

Village of Masset Councillor Barry Pages attended the federal announcement.

The funding was announced alongside investments at airports in Prince Rupert, Fort Nelson, Smithers, Bella Coola and Kamloops.

Transport Canada said the program supports safety-related capital projects at eligible regional airports and is intended to help improve aging infrastructure and maintain safe, reliable airport operations.

The Village of Masset thanked Transport Canada for supporting transportation-related infrastructure in the community.



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EDITORIAL

When the local paper becomes a ghost

There has been a lot of discussion lately about news deserts, ghost newspapers and the disappearing local news landscape in Canada. The federal government has even commissioned a multi-year project to map where local news still exists, where it has disappeared and where communities are being underserved. Here on Haida Gwaii, we do not really need a map to understand what that looks like. We have watched nearly the whole cycle happen in our own communities.

The Haida Gwaii Observer began publishing in 1969 and for decades was locally owned. It was the paper people picked up to find out what councils were doing, what was happening at school, which businesses were opening and closing and what was going on around the islands. Black Press bought the Observer in 2014. I do not think it is useful to turn what followed into a simple story about a big corporation arriving and destroying a small-town paper. Good journalism continued there after the sale. I worked for the Observer myself. But the newspaper business was changing fast, and not in ways that were especially friendly to small rural publications.

Advertising moved online. Classifieds largely disappeared. Facebook became a major source of community information. People became used to getting news for free, often without thinking much about who had gathered it or how it had been paid for. Eventually, Haida Gwaii lost its printed newspaper. The Observer stopped printing in 2020. The masthead never technically disappeared. The website remains online, but there is very little there that resembles local reporting from Haida Gwaii. That is where the term ghost newspaper starts to make sense. The name remains. The website remains. But the local reporting that once gave the paper meaning has largely disappeared.

What sticks with me most is when it happened. I watched our local news disappear during COVID, at the exact moment our communities were desperate for reliable local information. People wanted to know what was happening with ferries, travel restrictions, health rules, closures and services. They wanted information that applied to Haida Gwaii, not Vancouver, Victoria or somewhere else on the mainland. Facebook groups filled some of that space, as did community organizations and government updates, but there was no longer the same independent local news source pulling it all together, asking questions and creating a record of what our communities were going through.

That period is probably why the current discussion around news deserts feels a little strange to me. I understand why researchers want to map the problem, but I also know what it looks like from inside one. It looks like people searching social media for answers. It looks like rumours moving faster than verified information. It looks like important decisions being made without anyone outside the room regularly reporting on them. Most of all, it looks like a community suddenly realizing that something it may have taken for granted is no longer there.

A news desert does not mean nobody is talking. Quite the opposite. There may be Facebook groups, newsletters, government notices, community pages and plenty of people passing information around. What is missing is the independent layer in between. Government can tell you what government wants you to know. Organizations can issue press releases. People can post what they heard. All of that can be useful, but it is not the same as having someone sit through the meeting, ask another question, check what happened and put it somewhere the whole community can see it.

Haida Gwaii News eventually appeared in that gap. There was no grand strategy behind it. Nobody commissioned a study and decided the islands needed another newspaper. It started small, stayed small and still runs on a pretty bare-bones model. This week we are putting out our 60th issue. That does not mean we have solved anything. If anything, keeping a paper alive makes it pretty obvious why so many others disappeared. Local journalism is expensive, time-consuming and hard to sustain. It depends on advertisers, contributors, readers and enough community interest to make the whole thing worth continuing.

That is why I hope all this new attention on news deserts leads somewhere useful. We probably do not need another study to tell us local newspapers are struggling. We already know that. The more important question is what communities lose when local reporting disappears, what happens when a newspaper becomes little more than a name on a website, and what it actually takes to keep even a small amount of independent local journalism alive.

Stacey



Jags Brown Photo

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TLELLAGRAM

BY JANET RIGG

BACK TO SCHOOL

While the sunny weather may still hold, the evenings are cooler and a heavy dew greets us in the morning. The kids are going back to school, hopeful, grumpy and somehow so much older than just a year before. It's a moment where we mark the passage of time with a photo and a memory, the differences filled with equal parts nostalgia and promise.

This time of year, the forest smells sharper as the plants and trees send their energy downwards, prepping for slumber, planning for future spring growth. There's a decay that is faint and carries with it a whiff of grief and sadness.

The ravens have chased off their young to other territories, and they seem to want to tell me all about it. While not chased off, my eldest is back for her final year of high school on Vancouver Island. I miss her terribly already, undoubtedly adding to the faint melancholy evident in these writings.

My youngest is hardly young, taller than me and counting down his own final years of high school. Life around our household was busy this summer, but now it quiets down to just us and the dog. So I, like many of you, am turning my attention to the dreams and goals I have for the fall and winter months ahead.

I'm under no illusions that my goals and dreams usually take a lot longer than my preferred timeline. Ever since my

marriage dissolved like sugar in the rain, I've held a dream of turning the workshop into an art studio. Many nights I fall asleep imagining how I'll set it up, the space and feel, the creative potential. That began two years ago, and it is still far from the completed project I have in mind.

But it gets closer each and every day. Well, most days ... okay, some days when I get around to working on it. And there is the rub. Life always seems to get in the way. Trips, obligations, events, child-rearing and a myriad of daily tasks seem to chip away at the minutes until months and months have passed me by.

So on days like today, the first day of school, I'm using my awareness of the passage of time to reignite my motivation to see my dreams come true. Yesterday I took on the shop once again.

I'm slowly separating all the things I don't want down there from the things I do want. I have the remnants of a construction business, meaning if there's a fastener you're looking for, I probably have boxes of it.

It's an enormous job that, at times, feels so overwhelming I find myself cursing the day he ever left the driveway, never to return again. But then I take a breath. I focus on one area, one item, and begin. Box by box, nail gun by nail gun (seriously, I have about six), the spaces

clear and I can see my dreams begin to take shape.

I discovered lately that it's been over three years since I did a SewnArt painting. I discovered this because I was greeted with a warning in my Gmail account that I was 500 per cent over my storage limit. Confusion abounded until I realized that somehow, at some point, I'd given Google permission to save all of my photos going back to 2023. Maybe I triggered this way back then, I have no idea. I'm a Mac gal and use iCloud, so this was a bit of a shock. It took me some time to systematically delete all my photos from Google, making sure they stayed on iCloud. And that's when I noticed I had not painted in so many years.

The universe bestows us with gifts, but if you don't use them, I think your soul withers a bit. The pursuit of survival and the almighty dollar can slowly siphon these talents away from us.

I know that I always feel off when I'm not being creative. I've filled that void with my DJing, but my soul really wants to paint. I want to feel the viscosity of paint dragged under my brush, blended, moved and picked up again. Probably to the tune of a wicked house mix, if I'm honest, for this space will be multifunctional!

And so I dream. I dream of a studio

that will spark my creativity and the creativity of others. Box by box, tool by tool, my art supplies gain space, my dreams take root. Stay tuned, and if you have any use for 2" DeWalt flooring staples, let me know. That may be just what you need to make your own dreams come true!



Submitted Photo

LIVING OUT LOUD

BY SUSAN MUSGRAVE

MAKING SENSE OF OUR LIVES

A few weeks ago, three friends commented that I had parked my car in a different spot in the driveway. There was no conscious deviation, on my part, from the rigid habit of parking at the top of my driveway, but I could explain the first unusual parking position when I remembered the cat had been sitting in a sunny spot and I hadn't wanted to disturb her. That didn't account for the second and third deviations. When I realized my car's parking place had become a local roadside attraction, I thought of enlivening my neighbour's lives even more by parallel parking on the roadside across from my driveway and leaving the passenger door open all night. But did I really want to expend all that effort for the sake of entertaining others?

After my friends pointed out my radical behavioural change, I started looking in their driveways to see what I could learn about their private lives. I noticed who didn't put their garbage can out, and when I saw the same garbage can in the same driveway two weeks in a row I wondered why they weren't responsibly recycling. Then there was a grey SUV with Yukon plates parked outside an eligible bachelor's sawmill for over a week. That wagged a few tongues but rang no bells, wedding or otherwise, and eventually the car was towed away.

We make sense of our lives in relation to others. I think of the car wave—a com-

mon polite gesture where a driver lifts an index finger or briefly raises a hand off the steering wheel to greet an oncoming motorist. One day I waved at a friend and she didn't wave back. What had I done to alienate her, I spent the day wondering? Maybe she was so absorbed in her own thoughts she didn't notice it was me waving at her? And, if so, what was so absorbing about her thoughts that she didn't pull over to share them with me?

I waved at a dog once. I almost waved at a garbage can — one that hadn't been carried out to the roadside for so many weeks I wasn't expecting it to be there. In tourist season waving at every single car becomes impractical. Yesterday there were three vehicles in a row on a stretch past the airport. The dilemma: did I keep my finger raised the whole time, or lower it after each wave and then raise it again to the next car?

Sometimes, to amuse myself, I drive along practising different waves until I settle on one I might adopt. The one I most often use is the one-finger wave: With both hands remaining on the steering wheel, one index finger is raised. This can be accompanied by a head nod.

The two-finger salute: Similar to the previous wave, only with the index and second finger raised while other fingers continue to grip the steering wheel.

The chin nod: A variation of the wave that uses the chin instead of the hand.

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Either a quick snap downward or a quick lift of the chin in acknowledgement.

The palm: The entire right hand lifts just off the steering wheel.

Thank you wave: Right hand raises near the rearview mirror to thank the driver who has slowed to let you pass.

The "out-the-window left-hand wave" reserved exclusively for very good friends (the one I used on the self-absorbed friend who failed to reciprocate.)

The Royal Wave I reserve for long straight stretches such as the road from Port to Tlell. Keeping the palm slightly cupped or vertical and twisting the wrist or swaying the forearm with minimal movement. I pretend I am the Queen, although why I am driving a Rav4 Hybrid instead of being driven in a Bentley by a chauffeur who calls me "Ma'am" remains a question.

My husband used to accuse me of employing a dismissive wave, flicking the wrist or brushing the hand outward with

the palm facing away, signalling "I don't want to deal with this, piss off and leave me alone." Reserved, I seem to remember, for those times he failed to address me as "Ma'am."

I've observed truckers waving to other truckers, but rarely to cars. Drivers of cars wave to other car drivers, but not to motorcyclists. Motorcyclists wave to one another, but do not wave to trucks or cars. Cyclists, well, the fixed judgmental glare straight ahead doesn't embolden me to wave in a friendly share-the-road type manner. Middle finger raised, maybe, and "get a truck" muttered under my breath. I apologize to all my cyclist friends. In every other respect you are sensible decent human beings, but when it comes to bicycles, what can I say? We march to the beat of a different accordion. Said with a dismissive wave.

SCIENCE MATTERS

BY DAVID SUZUKI

Clean power pathways beat carbon capture

We know that spewing greenhouse gases into the air, mainly by burning fossil fuels, is the primary driver of rapidly accelerating global heating, and that carbon dioxide can remain in the atmosphere for thousands of years. Some, however, is taken up by plants, soil and water as part of the carbon cycle.

Does that mean using technology to remove CO₂ from the atmosphere is a viable or necessary climate change solution? Oil and gas companies, and their government enablers, think so — and they're betting your money on it.

An agreement between the federal and Alberta governments and five oil companies includes significant incentives, including funding and investment tax credits, for the Pathways Project (costing up to \$30 billion — or more) to capture, transport and store oilsands emissions. The project is part of a deal to build a multi-billion-dollar taxpayer-funded pipeline to move diluted oilsands bitumen from Alberta to British Columbia's south coast.

As the Pembina Institute states, "The oil and gas sector does not need further incentives to run or expand their operations, as market drivers should be the basis for these actions."

The plan is part of range of incentives to boost oil production, and to use carbon captured from production emissions

for "enhanced oil recovery" — injecting the CO₂ into depleted oilfields to extract even more oil.

Every international climate agency and scientific body has stated there is no room for further coal, oil and gas exploration or development if we want to keep global average temperatures from rising to catastrophic levels.

Even the most optimistic projections say the Pathways facility will only capture six million of the 92 million tonnes of CO₂ the oilsands produce a year by 2035. As the Pembina Institute reports, "Oilsands emissions have increased 177 per cent since 2005 and are projected to continue to rise" if the new pipeline is built and production increased.

And most emissions, about 80 per cent, are from end-use burning, not production. Because much of Canada's bitumen is exported, those aren't counted in Canada's inventory.

The Alberta oilsands are Canada's highest single source of emissions, at about 13 per cent, and growing. Oil and gas overall accounts for 30 per cent. The Carnegie Endowment's Oil-Climate Index shows that "oilsands generate 2.2 times as many emissions per barrel than the average crude extracted in North America."

Taking into account production and consumption, it's clear that the Pathways

Project will contribute to increased emissions, fuelling even more overheating and consequences, from heat domes and wildfires to floods, droughts, species extinction and migration crises.

Canada isn't the only country asking taxpayers to subsidize this largely unproven, risky, energy-intensive and less-than-effective technology. The United States, United Kingdom and Australia are also funnelling public money into carbon capture projects.

The oil and gas industry has been working for at least two decades to sell carbon capture as a way to continue producing its polluting, climate-altering product. An investigation by ProPublica and Drilled found that British oil giant BP "significantly shaped" a widely cited 2004 Princeton University study that "oversold the readiness of carbon capture and storage" and "stretched the facts."

A study in Petroleum Research concludes, "reliance on CCS as a cornerstone climate solution is deeply flawed, especially when more scalable and immediate strategies exist" and that it's "a detour used to justify the continued operation of fossil fuel infrastructure."

Burying massive amounts of CO₂ also comes with environmental risks, including drinking-water contamination, potential toxic leaks from pipelines and storage facilities and even seismic activ-

ity.

There are better ways to reduce emissions, immediately — and better nation-building projects.

Canada should build a connected grid, expand less expensive and more effective renewables and electrify the economy, which would offer a huge boost in energy efficiency. Policies such as carbon pricing and emissions caps are also effective, but the federal government has abandoned the emissions cap and lowered ambition on carbon pricing. Protecting and restoring natural systems that sequester carbon, such as forests and wetlands, are also better, more cost-effective solutions.

It's insane that obscenely profitable fossil fuel companies are allowed to continue putting all life at risk through unnecessary expansion of their deadly industry. That they and their government supporters expect us to help pay for it is unconscionable and suicidal!

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki Foundation Senior Writer and Editor Ian Hanington.

Learn more at david Suzuki.org.

BOB'S YOUR UNCLE

BY BOB LOBLAW

Did you ever wonder what it is about fish and fishing that gets us so excited? What does a fish mean to you?

Uncle Bob was looking through his box of old photographs the other day and there they were: very young Uncle Bob in black and white, holding a small pike on a string, looking into the camera with the full weight of his initiation into manhood on his small shoulders. Teenage Uncle Bob with a trout and a self-conscious grin in garish Kodachrome. Young adult Uncle Bob hoisting a big spring salmon. What a slab! Also nice fish. And on and on with the pictures of Self posing with Fish and, increasingly with age, a tendency to photograph just the Fish.

It's right up there with photos of sunsets and, of course, the best pictures have all three: Self, Sunset and Fish shining forth together.

Now that his years of attending weddings have shifted into years of attending funerals, Bob sees that the settings and props in the photographs of these key moments tend to be carefully chosen to reflect how we see ourselves or, more precisely, how we would like others to see us. In the case of the funerals, he finds it remarkable how many of the last published images of men in particular include the Big Fish.

What is it with the fish? Why do so many of us literally dream about them?

The other day, passing through the Masset Airport, I sat beside a gentleman from Texas who was on his way home.

He said he had been following his dream of a big fish on a throbbing rod (forgive me) at the same West Coast fishing lodge on Haida Gwaii for 16 years. Except for the fact that he has noted a disappointing decline in the size of his trophies over the years, he and many others like him gladly line up for the Helijets like schoolkids on a field trip, even though many are clearly wealthy enough to do pretty much anything at all they might want in the world.

The Texan was bringing more than 100 pounds of frozen Chinook and coho home with him, but while he occasionally liked to put a fillet on the barbecue, he admitted to not really knowing what to do with it other than give it to friends. The lure for him was not the need or even the strong desire for food. I suppose you could call it something primal.

The psychologist Carl Jung suggested that a Dream Fish, being a creature that lived beneath the surface, was often a symbol of the unconscious Self. When we are able to pull a dream fish from the depths into the light of consciousness, we may be surprised by the sense of completion it brings. But maybe in the dream we pull up a Monster that devours us before returning to the depths with its prey, and we wake up terrified.

Have you ever looked into the eyes of a wolf eel or a ratfish and wondered what they might do to you if they got into one of your nightmares?

Remember those fish porn shows in which good old boys raced their bass boats



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Daajing Giids, Haida Gwaii

to the lairs of the elusive smallmouth or crappie? Not too much danger lurking in those murky waters except for the occasional crocodile or the ever-present risk of being hypnotized into buying a Dodge Ram or a boner pill. Danger aside, the quest for a tiny crappie in a polluted lake was just as effective a driver of economic activity as the quest for steelhead or Chinook in the majestic waters of Haida Gwaii. Take out your calculator in the ferry parking lot during fishing season just for fun and try to estimate the investment in sport fishing gear, counting boats, motors, trailers, rods, lures, waders, tackle boxes, vehicles, insurance, coolers, gas, booze and so forth. The power of the idea of Fish to hook the fisherman is a truly remarkable thing!

It seems clear to Bob that the Haida view of Fish in culture and art is much more articulate than that of the "sport" fishers. Salmon and other fish exist as part of a complex web of mutual dependencies that very much includes we humans. In the more meaningful Indigenous view, a wild salmon is anything but a sports toy or a trophy.

The Nisga'a people of the Nass tell stories about children disrespecting and torturing salmon in a creek prior to the great volcano that destroyed villages and filled the valley with lava and ash more than

200 years ago. Right now there is a proposal at play between the Nisga'a Government and corporate investors to build an LNG plant on an island in their territory, supplied by a pipeline that would cross numerous salmon-bearing waterways in northern British Columbia before passing through those very lava beds.

Even though he knows that fish are so much more than meets the eye, Bob worries that there may not be a story powerful enough to save them or us, given the way things are going. He wonders which of his photos of happy moments with fish he should keep, or whether he should digitize all of them and send them into the Cloud with the rest of his memories of life on this earth.

The thing about fish is that they are mysterious and symbolic in ways we are often unaware of, while at the same time they are physical creatures that we can play with, neglect, commodify or respect as we choose. This, he thinks, is just one of the many hard edges to life here on the Edge of the World that thankfully always seem to soften as the light fades and the campfire embers turn into imagery and smoke, carrying him into a place where a fish can transform into anything at all but never into something he can ever quite catch.

HAIDA GWAII RECREATION PRESENTS

Total Body Conditioning

WITH CAROLYN IN DAAJING GIIDS



Dates:

- **Round 1:** Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 2026
- **Round 2:** Oct. 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25; Dec. 2, 2026

Days:

Wednesdays

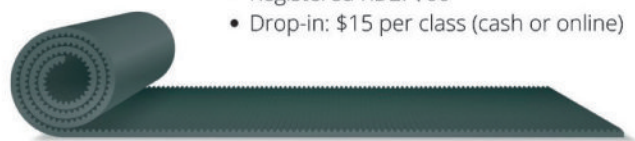
Time: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Location: GidGalang Kuuyas Naay Secondary School Gymnasium, DaaJing Giids

Instructor: Carolyn Gibson

Cost

- Registered RD1: \$60 (\$12/class)
- Registered RD2: \$60
- Drop-in: \$15 per class (cash or online)



Come join Carolyn for a circuit-style class that makes it accessible to all fitness levels! Looking for a more intense workout? Cycle through your movements at your circuit station faster. Looking for a less intense workout? Pick up a lighter weight at your station. Whatever you need, this class will have it for you!



ALL LEVELS WELCOME!

MORE INFO ONLINE: WWW.HGREC.COM
QUESTIONS? INFO@HGREC.COM

HAIDA GWAII RECREATION PRESENTS

Yoga with Meghan

AT SEAFOAM STUDIO, DAAJING GIIDS

Dates:

- **Round 1:** Sept. 10, 17, 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 2026
- **Round 2:** Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26; Dec. 3, 10, 17, 2026

Days:

Thursdays

Time: 5:30 – 6:45 PM

Location: Seafoam Studio, DaaJing Giids

Instructor: Meghan Cross

Cost:

- **Round 1 Registration:** \$90
- **Round 2 Registration:** \$105
- **Drop-in:** \$17 per class



Drop-in is available with cash or online payment only. Props are available at the studio, or feel free to bring your own!

This mixed-level yoga practice is beginner-friendly, with options to deepen your practice based on your experience. Classes will include a variety of poses and breathwork.



REGISTRATION + DROP-IN AVAILABLE

MORE INFO ONLINE: WWW.HGREC.COM
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HAIDA GWAII RECREATION PRESENTS

Iyengar Yoga

WITH JENN AT MASSET PLAYHOUSE



Date(s):

ROUND 1: Sept 28 - Nov 2, 2026

ROUND 2: Nov 9 - Dec 14, 2026

Day(s):

Mondays

Time(s): 5:15pm - 6:45pm

Location: Masset Playhouse

Instructor: Jennifer Chow

Cost:

- Registered Round 1: \$90
- Registered Round 2: \$108\
- Drop-in available as well!

"Iyengar yoga is a style that focuses on alignment and includes the use of props. This class is suitable for everyone. Jenn will provide adaptations so that each student's realities (age, health, yoga history, nature) will be respected. All props are provided."



ALL LEVELS WELCOME, BEGINNER FRIENDLY.

MORE INFO ONLINE: WWW.HGREC.COM
QUESTIONS? INFO@HGREC.COM

HAIDA GWAII RECREATION PRESENTS

Lengthen & Strengthen

AT SEAFOAM STUDIO, IN DAAJING GIIDS



Dates:

- **Round 1:** Sept. 22, 29; Oct. 6, 13, 27, 2026
- **Round 2:**

Days:

Tuesdays

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Location: Seafoam Studio, DaaJing Giids

Instructor: Shelley Sansome

Cost

- **Round 1 Registration:** \$75
- **Round 2 Registration:** \$90
- **Drop-in:** \$17/class (online or cash)

An active, moderate-to-high-intensity full-body fitness class combining dynamic yoga, bodyweight exercises, Pilates and restorative stretching. Classes include movements such as squats, lunges and jumping jacks to build strength, stamina, balance, mobility and core control. This is not a gentle yoga class and participants should be comfortable getting down to and up from the floor.

Modifications may be available; please let Shelley know about any injuries, mobility limitations or other considerations before attending.



REGISTRATION + DROP-IN AVAILABLE

MORE INFO ONLINE: WWW.HGREC.COM
QUESTIONS? INFO@HGREC.COM

EVENTS

The hɫGa hɫk'aats iihlangaa - Agate Man Triathlon returned to Masset on Sept. 5, bringing swimmers, cyclists and runners together for the annual community event. The day began at Pure Lake before competitors made their way through the bike and run portions of the race. Organizers said this year saw the highest number of children taking part yet, including young solo swimmers and families competing in the Ben Davidson Family Relay. Event shirts once again featured Ben's Sea Grizzly design and the colour yellow in his memory.

Photos by Jags Brown



ON THE RECORD

The Ballot That Shouldn't Be Skipped: Why Civic Literacy Matters on Haida Gwaii

By Beng Leng Favreau, Literacy Haida Gwaii

Every four years, British Columbians are asked to choose the people who will make decisions closest to home. This October, that opportunity comes again. On Saturday, October 17, 2026, voters across British Columbia will elect mayors and councillors, regional district directors and school trustees. Local elections often attract far less attention than provincial or federal contests. Too many people still do not know exactly what they are voting for, who is responsible for what or why their local ballot matters. That's where civic literacy comes in.

Civic literacy is the knowledge and understanding people need to participate meaningfully in public life. It means knowing how governments work, what elected officials are responsible for, how decisions are made, where public money goes and how local citizens can hold their representatives accountable. It is more than knowing the names of political leaders. It is the understanding of who has the authority to make decisions and who does not. It is knowing our participation strengthens democracy. That distinction matters enormously on Haida Gwaii.

There is no single mayor, council or government that "runs" all of Haida Gwaii. Governance on Haida Gwaii is a multi-tiered structure that blends municipal administration, regional cooperation and Indigenous sovereignty. The incorporated municipalities on Haida Gwaii include the Village of Masset, the Village of Port Clements and the Village of Daajing Giids. Each village has its own elected mayor and council. Residents outside these municipalities fall within the North Coast Regional District's electoral areas. Electoral Area D covers Tlell, Tow Hill, Lawn Hill and Miller Creek. Electoral Area E primarily includes Sandspit. The Haida Nation has its own governance and jurisdictional relationships that are distinct from municipal and regional governments. Residents of Old Massett and Skidegate have their own Band Councils' governance.

Municipal councils deal with the nuts and bolts of community life: local bylaws, taxation, municipal services, infrastructure, land-use decisions, budgets and other responsibilities established under provincial legislation. The North Coast Regional District provides regional services and governance for its electoral areas and participating municipalities.

Local government can sometimes seem distant because its decisions do not make national headlines. However, local decisions can be intensely personal. They can affect housing and development, roads and infrastructure, water and sewer systems, recreation, emergency planning, local taxation, community facilities and economic development. A municipal council may not determine provincial health policy or federal fisheries policy, but it can have a profound influence on the condition in which people live.

The same is true of school trustees. Haida Gwaii's School District 50 has its own elected Board of Education. The district serves communities across Haida Gwaii, including Masset and the surrounding area, Port Clements, Daajing Giids, Sandspit and Skidegate. Our School District relies on elected trustees to shape the public education environment for local youth.

One of the easiest mistakes a voter can make is to fill out the municipal portion of the ballot and ignore the school trustee election. That would mean leaving one of the most important local decisions in the hands of fewer voters.

School trustees are not simply honorary representatives. They are elected members of the Board of Education and are responsible for governing the school district and making decisions about public education within the district. Their work includes matters such as the district's budget, policies, facilities and the overall direction of public education. These decisions reach into classrooms, schools and families.

For parents and grandparents, the trustee vote de-

serves the same attention as the mayoral race. For students and young people, it is a vote about the institutions that shape their education. For everyone who pays taxes or cares about the future of the community, it is a vote about a major public investment.

Local elections often see lower turnout than provincial or federal ones, but the stakes are just as high. Local elections deserve attention because local government is where democracy becomes tangible. It is where a budget becomes a road project, where a policy becomes a bylaw, where a school-board decision becomes a classroom reality and where a community's priority becomes spending decisions. For Haida Gwaii, the October ballot offers voters a chance to choose people who will help shape the next four years of life in our communities.

A ballot is not just a piece of paper. There is a tendency to think that one vote cannot change much, particularly in a small community like ours but local elections can be decided by relatively small margins. More importantly, voting is not simply about predicting who will win. It is about choosing who will exercise public authority on your behalf. A ballot is a delegation of power. When residents stay home, they do not escape local government. They simply surrender their opportunity to help choose who makes those decisions. The people elected in October will inherit the responsibility for decisions that may last well beyond the excitement of election night.

On Haida Gwaii where communities are small and decisions are felt immediately, every vote carries weight. Whether you are concerned about housing, roads, sewer treatment, emergency preparedness, youth programs, recreation or cultural education, your ballot is a tool for shaping the future of our islands. A healthy democracy depends not only on people having the right to vote, but on people understanding what their vote means. That is civic literacy.



Rush hour, Tlell style. Richardson Ranch cows take over the road on their way through downtown.

Richardson Ranch Photo

Warriors defeat Traitors to win the 2026 Gup memorial mens tournament.

Photos by Damon Reece



OFF ISLAND ANTICS

BY VINCE BRZOSTOWSKI

Runaway island found after drifting 30 kilometres

BC Hydro briefly lost track of an island this summer.

Not a metaphorical island. An actual 9,800-square-metre chunk of trees, vegetation, logs and decaying woody debris floating around Williston Reservoir.

The travelling island was first documented west of Finlay Bay in July, measuring approximately 140 metres long and 70 metres wide, or roughly the size of two football fields.

BC Hydro was alerted Aug. 13 after receiving photos and video believed to have been taken on or around July 21. Given the current state of the internet, the utility first had to establish that nobody had simply asked artificial intelligence to invent a rogue forest.

"In the age of AI, it's important to verify unusual reports before drawing conclusions," BC Hydro Community Relations Manager Bob Gammer said.

Satellite imagery from July 21 confirmed the reports.

Williston Reservoir did, in fact, have a floating island.

Then nobody knew where it went.

The island disappeared from public view after being spotted west of Finlay Bay, leaving BC Hydro, boaters and eventually a surprising chunk of the international media wondering where several thousand square metres of forest

had wandered off to.

The story was picked up by outlets including the BBC, The New York Times, National Geographic and TMZ, proving once again that nothing brings the world together quite like a missing island.

The mystery ended Aug. 31 when BC Hydro confirmed the island had drifted approximately 30 kilometres northwest and come to rest against the shoreline of the Ospika Arm.

Satellite imagery showed it there by Aug. 15, although the images were not available for analysis immediately. Reports from boaters and observations from small aircraft also helped confirm its location.

The island appears to have survived its little holiday largely intact.

Exactly how Williston Reservoir ended up with a mobile island remains uncertain. BC Hydro said one possibility is that logs and woody debris collected over many years in a sheltered area. As the material decomposed, vegetation may have taken root, eventually forming a stable enough mass to float away.

Geologists, ecologists and other researchers have since taken an interest in figuring out how the island formed and what sent it travelling.

For now, it has parked itself along the shoreline and is farther from the W.A.C.



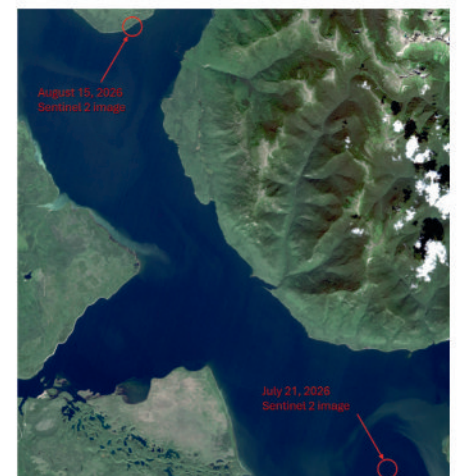
Submitted Photo

Bennett Dam than when it was first spotted. BC Hydro does not expect any operational problems.

People are welcome to approach by boat or drone for photographs, but BC Hydro is asking everyone to stay off the island. Beneath the trees and greenery is a mass of logs and decaying woody debris that may be unstable.

So, despite briefly becoming one of the most famous islands in Canada, the runaway has been located.

Whether it stays put is apparently another matter.



Submitted Photo

FERRIES SCHEDULE

Moresby Island (Alliford Bay) to Graham Island (Skidegate)



Sep 08 2026 - Mar 31 2027

DEPART Moresby Island (Alliford Bay)	STOPS/TRANSFERS	ARRIVE Graham Island (Skidegate)
7:00 AM Fri	<i>Except on Dec 25 & Jan 1</i>	7:20 AM
7:00 AM Mon - Thu, Sun, Sat	Non-stop	7:20 AM
8:00 AM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	8:20 AM
8:50 AM Thu	<i>No passengers permitted - DG Sailing only.</i>	9:10 AM
8:50 AM Wed	Non-stop	9:10 AM
9:00 AM Sun, Mon, Tue, Fri, Sat	Non-stop	9:20 AM
9:30 AM Thu	Non-stop	9:50 AM
10:30 AM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	10:50 AM
11:30 AM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	11:50 AM
12:30 PM Mon - Wed, Sun, Fri, Sat	Non-stop	12:50 PM
12:50 PM Thu	<i>No passengers permitted - DG Sailing only.</i>	1:10 PM
1:30 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	1:50 PM
3:30 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	3:50 PM
4:30 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	4:50 PM
5:30 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	5:50 PM
7:00 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	7:20 PM
9:00 PM Thu	Non-stop	9:20 PM
10:00 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	10:20 PM

Graham Island (Skidegate) to Moresby Island (Alliford Bay)



Sep 08 2026 - Mar 31 2027

DEPART Graham Island (Skidegate)	STOPS/TRANSFERS	ARRIVE Moresby Island (Alliford Bay)
7:30 AM Fri	<i>Except on Dec 25 & Jan 1</i>	7:50 AM
7:30 AM Mon - Thu, Sun, Sat	Non-stop	7:50 AM
8:30 AM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	8:50 AM
9:10 AM Thu	<i>No passengers permitted - DG Sailing only.</i>	9:30 AM
9:30 AM Sun, Mon, Tue, Fri, Sat	Non-stop	9:50 AM
10:00 AM Wed, Thu	Non-stop	10:20 AM
11:00 AM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	11:20 AM
12:00 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	12:20 PM
1:00 PM Mon - Wed, Sun, Fri, Sat	Non-stop	1:20 PM
1:10 PM Thu	<i>No passengers permitted - DG Sailing only.</i>	1:30 PM
2:00 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	2:20 PM
4:00 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	4:20 PM
5:00 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	5:20 PM
6:30 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	6:50 PM
7:30 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	7:50 PM
9:30 PM Thu	Non-stop	9:50 PM
10:30 PM Mon - Sun	Non-stop	10:50 PM

SEPTEMBER TIDES

MASSET

Day	Time	Feet	Day	Time	Feet
1 Tue	0505 1058 1716 2355	10.0 2.6 11.7 1.9	16 Wed	0550 1121 1735	8.9 4.3 10.8
2 Wed	0551 1132 1757	9.2 3.4 11.5	17 Thu	0029 0645 1153 1813	2.7 8.1 5.1 10.2
3 Thu	0047 0648 1212 1843	2.2 8.3 4.2 11.1	18 Fri	0126 0759 1234 1859	3.2 7.5 5.8 9.5
4 Fri	0152 0809 1304 1941	2.5 7.7 5.1 10.7	19 Sat	0242 0936 1346 2017	3.5 7.3 6.3 9.1
5 Sat	0316 0951 1425 2109	2.6 7.6 5.7 10.5	20 Sun	0359 1107 1613 2205	3.4 7.6 6.2 9.1
6 Sun	0438 1121 1618 2241	2.3 8.1 5.6 10.8	21 Mon	0506 1202 1723 2313	3.0 8.2 5.5 9.4
7 Mon	0552 1223 1740 2350	1.8 9.0 4.8 11.4	22 Tue	0601 1236 1811	2.6 8.8 4.7
8 Tue	0654 1307 1844	1.3 9.8 3.8	23 Wed	0004 0644 1305 1852	9.9 2.2 9.5 3.8
9 Wed	0047 0742 1342 1939	11.9 1.0 10.7 2.9	24 Thu	0047 0720 1331 1931	10.4 1.9 10.1 3.0
10 Thu	0137 0822 1415 2028	12.2 0.9 11.4 2.2	25 Fri	0127 0752 1356 2010	10.8 1.8 10.8 2.2
11 Fri	0222 0856 1447 2113	12.2 1.1 12.0 1.7	26 Sat	0206 0822 1424 2049	11.0 1.8 11.5 1.5
12 Sat	0305 0927 1520 2154	11.9 1.5 12.3 1.5	27 Sun	0246 0852 1455 2129	11.0 2.0 12.0 1.0
13 Sun	0345 0957 1553 2231	11.3 2.0 12.2 1.6	28 Mon	0327 0922 1529 2210	10.8 2.3 12.4 0.8
14 Mon	0424 1025 1627 2307	10.6 2.7 11.9 1.8	29 Tue	0409 0954 1607 2252	10.4 2.7 12.4 0.8
15 Tue	0505 1053 1701 2345	9.8 3.5 11.4 2.2	30 Wed	0454 1029 1647 2337	9.8 3.3 12.2 1.1

DAAJING GIIDS

Day	Time	Feet	Day	Time	Feet
1 Tue	0438 1100 1646 2346	20.1 5.6 21.7 4.3	16 Wed	0525 1124 1713	18.1 8.6 20.0
2 Wed	0523 1135 1725	18.9 7.1 21.2	17 Thu	0019 0614 1159 1756	6.2 16.8 10.0 18.8
3 Thu	0036 0617 1217 1814	4.9 17.6 8.6 20.3	18 Fri	0109 0718 1246 1855	7.4 15.6 11.3 17.7
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5 Sat	0250 0904 1443 2054	6.2 15.8 11.0 19.0	20 Sun	0337 1032 1554 2150	8.4 15.4 12.0 17.1
6 Sun	0416 1046 1626 2225	5.9 16.4 10.6 19.5	21 Mon	0456 1135 1714 2257	7.9 16.5 10.9 17.8
7 Mon	0533 1154 1747 2336	4.8 17.9 9.2 20.6	22 Tue	0553 1215 1806 2348	6.9 17.6 9.5 18.8
8 Tue	0634 1242 1847	3.5 19.5 7.3	23 Wed	0637 1246 1848	5.9 18.8 7.9
9 Wed	0032 0723 1321 1936	21.7 2.5 21.0 5.5	24 Thu	0031 0714 1314 1927	19.8 5.0 20.0 6.4
10 Thu	0121 0806 1356 2021	22.4 2.0 22.1 4.1	25 Fri	0109 0747 1341 2004	20.7 4.4 21.0 4.8
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12 Sat	0245 0919 1501 2141	22.4 2.8 23.1 3.0	27 Sun	0224 0852 1435 2120	21.7 4.2 22.8 2.6
13 Sun	0325 0952 1533 2220	21.6 4.0 22.8 3.3	28 Mon	0302 0925 1505 2200	21.6 4.7 23.2 2.2
14 Mon	0403 1023 1605 2258	20.6 5.4 22.1 4.0	29 Tue	0342 0958 1538 2243	21.1 5.6 23.1 2.3
15 Tue	0443 1053 1637 2336	19.4 7.0 21.1 5.0	30 Wed	0425 1034 1615 2328	20.2 6.8 22.5 3.0



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Seeking Adventure Buddies

Seeking ocean swimmers interested in crossing from skidegate to onward point summer 2027. Hoping to train through fall and spring. Shoreline swims and smaller island crossings.

Ryan - rfb@skyscraper.nu

FUN & GAMES

ANSWERS ON PAGE 19

Hunting season

L	W	L	A	U	H	V	F	Y	J	L	J	R	G	N	Z	P	Z	E	Q
S	R	S	O	H	J	G	T	D	X	U	A	B	X	S	K	B	C	D	E
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DEER
HUNTING
PONTOONS
SALAL
TRACKS
VENISON

SITKA
RIFLE
FOREST
MUSKEG
BUCK
FREEZER

BLACKTAIL
SCOPE
CEDAR
TRAIL
DOE
BINOCULARS

Agate Man Triathlon

Complete the crossword puzzle below

Across

3. People invited to line the route and cheer competitors on

6. Team option that lets competitors divide up the three disciplines

8. Family name honoured through a special family relay

9. Someone taking part in the day's competition

10. Someone whose time and help keep community events like this running

12. Something carried forward each year through the event in Ben's memory

14. Sea creature featured in Ben's design on the event shirts

16. Competition combining swimming, cycling and running

17. First of the three disciplines

18. Two-wheeled middle portion of the race

Down

1. Starting point for the swimming portion of the event

2. Stone that gives this annual Haida Gwaii race its name

4. What opened at Pure Lake at 9 a.m. before the race

5. Final discipline before competitors reach the finish

7. North-end community where racers headed after leaving the lake

11. Colour traditionally included on the event shirts in Ben's memory

13. Age group that turned out in record numbers this year

15. What competitors worked toward after swimming, biking and running

	4			9	7			6
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4		9	6					
					3			9

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VOTE

IN THE LATEST

HGN POLLS!

SCAN TO VOTE

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Haida Gwaii Happenings

DAAJING GIIDS

Walking Group (All Ages)

Community Hall
10 a.m. - Noon

Taoist Tai Chi

Community Hall
Wed, 5 p.m. Sat 10 a.m.

Drop-in Pickleball

GKN School Gym
Mon 6-8 p.m. Tues 8-10 p.m.

Drop-in Badminton

GKN School Gym
Wed, 8-10 p.m.

Total Body Conditioning

GKN School Gym
Wed, 6-7 p.m.

Comfort & Tea Drop-In Group

Island Wellness Society
Thursdays, 3-4:30 p.m.

Playgroup

DG Child Centre (Yellow Door at the Community Hall)
Fridays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Seniors' Social Gathering

Seniors Room (next to VURL)
Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m.

Art Jam.

Monday's except holidays
Seafoam Studio from 7:30-9p.m. \$5 per person. Everyone welcome. Bring a project to work on.

PORT CLEMENTS

Soccer (ongoing)

Port Clements Fields
Sundays at 1 p.m.

Karaoke Nights (ongoing)

Axe and Anchor Pub
Fridays at 9 p.m.

Port Rod and Gun Club

Trap Shoot Sept. 13th

Thanksgiving Meat Shoot Oct. 4th

Pumpkin shoot Nov 1st

SANDSPIT

Badminton (Grade 5+) (ongoing)

ALM School Gym
Sundays 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Wild Harvest Festival

Oct 10-11

MASSET

CCR Playground Playgroup (ongoing)

1648 Orr St.
Tuesdays 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Harm Reduction Lunch (ongoing)

Wellness House
Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Iyengar Yoga with Jenn Masse
Playhouse

Mondays, 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.

Agate Man Marathon

September 5

SKIDEGATE

Haida Gwaii Elders Gathering

149 Front St.
Tues and Thurs, 1 to 3 p.m.

WEEKLY MEETINGS

Big Book Meeting (AA)

Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m.
Skidegate United Church

Wellness Wednesdays

Wed, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Daaing Giids Firehall

AA Meeting

Thursdays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Alder House, Daaing Giids

AA Meeting

Saturdays, 8 to 9:30 p.m.
Skidegate United Church

AA Meeting

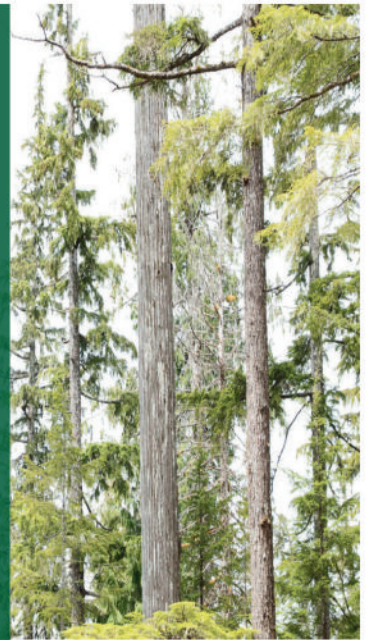
Wednesdays, 8 to 9:30 p.m.
Masset Soup Kitchen

REVIEW AND COMMENT

Haida Gwaii Licensees are seeking comments from the public on proposed Operations for all tenures across Haida Gwaii from August 27th, 2026 to September 26th, 2026. In accordance with Section 15.1 of the Forest and Range Practices Act, we are requesting your comments on proposed developments for 2026/2027/2028.

The Forest Operations Maps is available for review and comment at:

- Forest Operations Map website Forest Operations Map (gov.bc.ca)
<https://fom.nrs.gov.bc.ca/public/projects>
- Ministry of Forest Office - 1229 Oceanview Drive, Daaing Giids (computer access to review/comment via Forest Operations Map portal)
- At Licensees office as detailed below



Taan Forest

(www.taanforest.com)
Office Review available at: Unite #3 Commercial Centre Highway 16 Skidegate BC.
Office hours Monday to Friday: 9am - 5am
Comments to: Taan Forest Unit 3 Commercial Center Box 848, Skidegate, BC, V0T 1S1
Email: FOM@Taanforest.com



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- Individual, family, and group counselling led by experienced Indigenous health professionals.
- Wellness hour (1 paid hour per week)
- 5 extra statutory holidays per calendar year (on top of regulatory stats)
- Municipal Pension Plan
- Monthly full staff gatherings
- Annual training & development budget

Join Our Team: HR@HAIDACHILD.CA

Recruitment is managed by Lantern HR & Leadership, who may contact you about your application.

haidachild.ca



Haida Gwaii Farmers' Markets

Masset Market
Friday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Daaing Giids Farmers' Market
Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tlell Farmers' Market
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

HOROSCOPES

♈ ARIES (March 21st - April 20th)

Avoid getting into a situation in which other people make decisions on your behalf. At times you may need to be a little more assertive. Romance. Be careful not to try to hide anything from your partner. You both need to be clear about your feelings towards an issue which affects you both.

♉ TAURUS (April 21st - May 21st)

A difficult aspect to Mars will give you a lot of extra energy, but you could be a little tense at times. Calm down before you get into an argument. Romance. Don't focus on a recent disappointment. Your partner will be behind you all of the way – they are much more concerned about your feelings than you realise.

♊ GEMINI (May 22nd - June 21st)

A favourable aspect to Mercury around the very beginning of the week will help you to clear your thoughts. You have some important decisions to make! Romance. Your partner may be a little forgetful at the moment. They have other things on their mind and you should not be too hard on them.

♋ CANCER (June 22nd - July 23rd)

An evening with friends later in the week will help you to unwind. You have been under a lot of pressure recently and need to take things easy for a while. Romance. An encouraging response from a person you are interested in will help to cheer you up. At times you may feel that you don't understand this friend as well as you could.

♌ LEO (July 24th - August 23rd)

A recent let-down may have had a more serious effect than you realise. Do your best to forget about it and move onto other things. Romance. Your feelings will be especially intense at the moment. Do your best to calm down before you say the wrong thing.

♍ VIRGO (August 24th - September 23rd)

A friend who has been behaving erratically may have problems which you are not aware of. Watch this person's behaviour carefully before you jump to conclusions. Romance. A phone call which comes from out of the blue may make your partner quite jealous this week.

♎ LIBRA (September 24th - October 23rd)

An acquaintance who tries to get you to break an important commitment will not be doing you any favours. This person will not have to suffer the consequences when things go wrong! Romance. A favourable aspect to Mercury at the beginning of the week will help you to communicate your ideas clearly and honestly to your partner.

♏ SCORPIO (October 24th - November 22nd)

A new friendship will open up more opportunities for improving your social life. This person respects you: it is in your best interest to build on this mutual trust. Romance. Energy spent trying to change your partner's bad habits will be wasted unless you choose an extremely subtle approach.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (November 23rd-December 21st)

A friend who doesn't understand you very well may try to give you advice which is not welcome. Be firm with this person, and don't be shy about making your feelings known. Romance. Your partner might not feel like going out at the moment. A quiet evening at home may turn out to be more romantic than you expect.

♑ CAPRICORN (December 22nd - January 20th)

Make sure that you check everything out carefully before you make a move which could prove difficult to go back on. You may have forgotten an important detail. Romance. Your enthusiasm will soon spread to the people around you. A romantic trip away from home with your partner will be particularly successful.

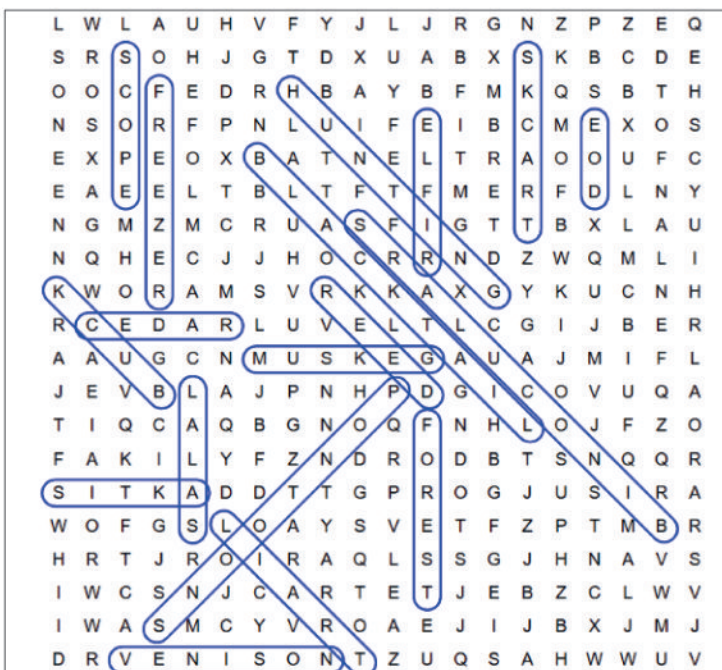
♒ AQUARIUS (January 21st - February 19th)

A distraction from your everyday routine will help you to see your present situation in a much clearer light. There are some aspects of your life which need attention. Romance. When you understand the events of the past few weeks a little more clearly you will have a better grasp of what is happening in your love-life at present.

♓ PISCES (February 20th - March 20th)

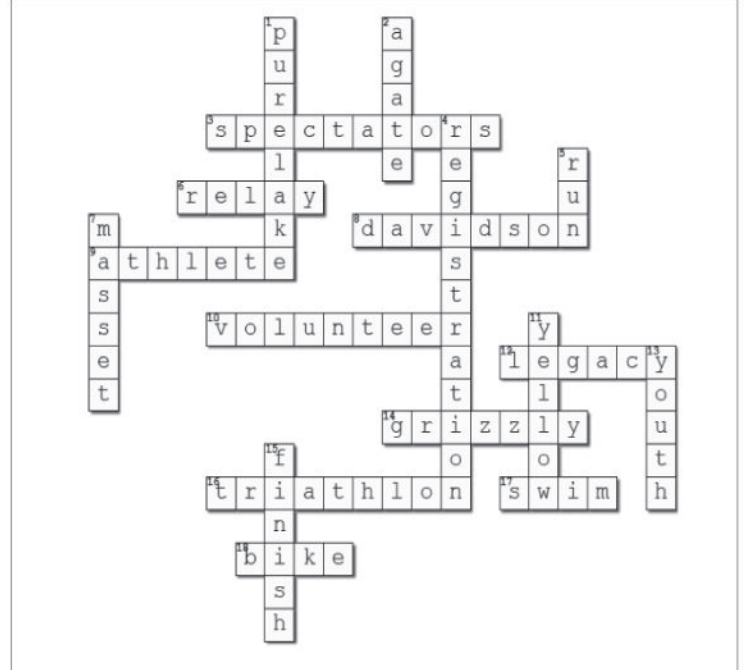
A difficult aspect to Saturn could make you a little negative at times. Don't jump to conclusions, though: if you expect the worst you may see problems which don't really exist. Romance. A friend whom you met socially will be extremely supportive over the next few days. You will soon get to like this person!

GAMES ANSWERS



3	4	1	2	9	7	5	8	6
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8	9	1	4	6	7	3	2	5
6	5	4	3	9	2	7	1	8
2	3	6	1	4	9	5	8	7
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K'il Kun (Sandspit)

OCTOBER 2026



Gwaii Trust Society