



TSAIN-KO
GROUP OF COMPANIES

Nation Builder

A tsain-ko Group Publication - MAY 2024

A Nation Rising.

A day we have long anticipated: Our House of Clans grand opening event.

On May 17, 2024, Ihe hiwus yaxwemult (Lenora Joe) and hi hewus oshale (Rochelle Jones) hosted and lead our community celebration for the official opening of Our House of Clans. In attendance were also former hiwus Tom Paull and Warren Paull, along with a welcome group of respected Elders. A number of our funding partners made the trip to be with us, as well as representatives from our Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments. Liberal MP Patrick Weiler, NDP MLA Nicholas Simons, Mayors John Henderson and Silas White all joined us as honoured guests.



Ihe hiwus yaxwemult (Lenora Joe) and hi hewus oshale (Rochelle Jones) drawing the winning numbers for our event Raffle. Also above, Sito (Alphonso Salinas) and Joey Craig opening the Ceremony with drumming and song.

Once Elders and guests had been shown to their designated seats, Sito and Joe opened the event with two beautiful songs to commemorate the occasion. Oshale then recalled for everyone the history and significance of the site, in a beautiful and emotional address. In it, she asked the spirits of the ancestors who watch this very space, as well as the Elders gathered together, to welcome, guide and protect the new tenants of the building, to guard their spirits, as well as those of the families who will follow them here in the future.

Ihe hiwus then addressed those in attendance, and spoke to the many hands and hearts that came together to realize this Nation housing project, from the financial support of BC Housing and the Federal Government, to the relentless effort and work by the staff at tsain-ko, saying “no one accomplishes a beautiful project and building like this alone; we made it happen together, government to government, partner to partner, staff to staff, and that includes the hiwus and council who came before us. We build together, carrying on the effort from one to another.”



From left: Kris Andreson tsain-ko COO, MLA Nicolas Simons, hi hewus ?xa Phil Paul, hi hewus o'shale Rochelle Jones, Ihe hiwus yaxwemult Lenora Joe, MP Patrick Weiler, Jason Jenkins tsain-ko CEO.

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Our House of Clans grand opening event continued...

MP Patrick Weiler and MLA Nicholas Simons each delivered brief remarks as well, with both echoing a message of change and improvement in how our Provincial and Federal Governments engage with and support First Nations. Each reflected on how slow the progress has been, but how welcome the change is, despite that. Patrick Weiler spoke to his fond memories of Master Carver Tony Paul, and the personal impact he felt when Tony asked him to make a mark on his Totem, Carving Tears into Dreams of Reconciliation, which will be installed right where the stage was set for this event - the space itself called Reconciliation Plaza.

Nicholas Simons shared an emotional and often funny (in a self-deprecating way) story of how his many years as MLA for our area has brought him so much closer to shishalh Nation members, created many enduring friendships, and filled him with so many beautiful memories. Mr. Simons announced his retirement recently and will not be running in the fall election.

Everyone in attendance was offered a tour of the building, its artwork, amenity spaces and a sampling of homes, and a beautiful lunch spread was prepared and offered by Lucy Joe and her team.



MLA Nicolas Simons speaking his last public address as MLA of the Sunshine Coast. Also above, the beautiful spread of foods put together by Lucy Joe and awesome team.

Cultural Awareness Training.

Among many other things that occurred this month, which we will communicate in next month's newsletter, facilitator Wesley Jeffries held a cross-cultural training session with a number of tsain-ko staff, as well as several members of the Jenkins Construction* team, including CEO Kai Jenkins pictured here (center, tall!), whom we announced in this newsletter last month had won the competitive bid to build out Pad 5 at the tsain-ko Centre. Kyle Paisley and his team with Summerhill Fine Homes were also in attendance. Our hands go up to all of our staff and especially our contractors for taking their valuable time to do this important work with us.



Kai Jenkins and his team with Jenkins* Construction, Kyle Paisley and his team with Summerhill Fine Homes, as well as several members of the tsain-ko team. Session facilitated by Wesley Jeffries. *no relation to tsain-ko's Jason Jenkins.

Upcoming Event Calendar & Special Dates 2024

MAY 29 **Reconciliation Pole Arrival**
Lon's Crane Service will bring the Reconciliation Pole to the Nation Offices (Parking lot).

MAY 29 **Awakening Ceremony** 4pm
Reconciliation pole will be brushed and blessed. Open for Nation Members and the Community.

MAY 30 **Sacred Dancers Ceremony**
3:00pm: This will be a private ceremony for Nation Members and Invited Guests.

MAY 31 **Installation of the Reconciliation Pole**

JUNE 21 **National Indigenous Peoples Day**

JUNE 21 **syiyaya days**
Various events in and around our swiya.

JUNE 23 **Carving Tears into Dreams Totem Raising Ceremony**
Time/Location: TBD

OCT 24 **Annual General Meeting 2024**
Time/Location: TBD