

APRIL 2010

NATIVE MINISTRIES

BC Conference of the United Church of Canada



HAIDA GWAI - 2010

ANNUAL GENERAL GATHERING

APRIL 22-26 2010

The Annual General Gathering (AGG) of the Native Ministries Council will be held in Haida Gwaii, in conjunction with Prince Rupert Presbytery's Spring Meeting.

REMEMBERING AGG 2009

Prince Rupert

'It Takes a Village'

Kathi Camilleri, receives a cedar box from Alvin Dixon, executive member of Native



Ministries Council, in appreciation for her presentation of 'It Takes a Village'. The interactive, healing journey, took participants into the past, 'before contact', to give First Nations, and Non-First Nations, an idea of what it would have been like. Kathi provides the tools we need, to move into right relations.

First United Church & The Crest



Great Venues, Great Participants

Thanks to all who helped at the 2009 AGG. Participants included, James Amos Tallio, from Bella Coola (seen here) and others from Kispiox, Hazelton, Port Simpson, Kitsegukla, Vancouver, and Rupert.

Feasting...

...on Crab. BC Conference Past President, Hilde Seale, (seen here), pulled up her sleeves as she enjoyed local, dungeoness crab,

fresh out of the ocean and fresh out of the shell. *Pass the melted butter please!*



WHO WILL BE AT HAIDA GWAI?

Moderator of the United Church of Canada, Mardi Tindal, will be at Haida Gwaii. Mardi, is very interested in hearing the stories of environmental concerns and of climate change for west coast peoples and will lead, "*Soul, Community and Creation: A conversation...with the Moderator*", Friday at 7:00 pm.

We are honored to have BC Conference President, Dan Chambers, spending time with us as well. There will be conversation time with the President on Saturday at 7:00 pm.

Blair Galston, from Archives, will give his presentation entitled, "Heroes of Our Church". See Native Ministries Education Fair on page 2 or more information.

Executive Minister for the newly formed National Aboriginal Council of the United Church of Canada, Maggie McLeod. Maggie is coming from Toronto to share the work of the Council and to have shared dialogue on how we can work together.

Prince Rupert and Cariboo Presbytery Youth, will be attending, '**Unravelling... The Mist(ery)**'. They will be exploring Haida Gwaii, it's culture, and the many other mysteries that Haida Gwaii will reveal. Registration fee: \$60. Contact Doris at DKizinna@bc.united-church.ca

And YOU! Please bring your regalia/drum, etc., for photo and video opportunities. 'Register by April 5th with Ha'eis Clare Hill. See page 3 - contact info.

Native Ministries Education Fair



Helping you live the call. That was the theme of the Native Ministries Education Fair that was held in Prince Rupert from February 26 - 28, 2010 at First United Church.



The purpose of the event was to share wisdom and information with those that had interest, or a calling, to go into ministry, and what that journey might look like. Particular emphasis was based on Lay Leadership and the "real minister" stereotype. We have spiritual leaders in our communities that can minister to our people. The hope was that the education fair would help those people and showed them how they could be supported and recognized. Participants came from Haida Gwaii, Kitsegukla, Cape Mudge, and Prince Rupert, to take in the 3 day Fair.



Reverend Dr Martin Brokenleg, a Lakota First Nation, as well as, theologian, educator, and inspirational speaker, came to share his wisdom of leadership using theology and traditional knowledge. Dr. Brokenleg led three presentations. The first, 'Early Church Leadership', which included what makes a leader and what is good leadership. 'Learning in this Location', the knowledge of learning. And ended with 'Creating Spiritual Courage', how to achieve spiritual strength through the teachings of 'belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity.

Professor, Steve Black, from Vancouver School of Theology provided a brief but interesting overview of some of the more important areas of New Testament studies. The main insights, to explore the challenge of seeing the bible as a library, as a collection of works, each to be understood primarily each in their own right.



BC Conference Staff members, Blair Galston, archivist, gave a detailed history of First nations ministers and lay leaders, referring to them as heroes,



referencing the likes of Dr. Kelly and Bill Robinson. Treena Duncan, Ministry and Personnel Minister, shared the various paths available to someone going into ministry. Micheal Hare, PR Rupert Conference Minister, an organizer of the fair, was available as a resource person as well.

The Life of the Church, was a workshop offered by Tom Harding examining the current life of the church in each of our communities and how we relate to our surroundings and the environment.

The United Church of Canada, sponsored the fair and was represented by Ted Reeve, who until recently, was Leadership & Education Minister. He was also available as a resource person.



All in all, the fair was a success and we are working to bring it to your communities. Stay tuned.



- April 17 - Kispiox
- April 18 - Hazelton/ Kitsegukla/ Haisla
- April 19 - Hartley Bay (above picture)
- April 20 - Klemtu/ Bella Bella
- April 25 - Skidegate
- April 27 - Port Simpson

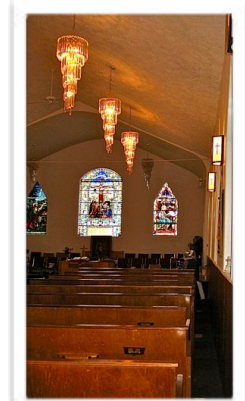
ITINERARY

Real Property Tour 2010

For most of our communities, the General Council Office of the United Church of Canada holds the title to the properties that are occupied by a church, manse, or hospital. As many of us know, the United Church has not been the best landlord. In an attempt to rectify this issue, the United Church of Canada and BC Conference, have organized a tour of some of our Real Properties by the finance and staff members of the church. This visit will result in a prioritized list of those properties in need of repairs.



manse in Bella Coola



sanctuary in Klemtu

WHAT'S HAPPENING!!

MOBILE COUNSELOR

It has taken 4 years and now we are in the final stages of making it a reality. BC Conference will be hiring a full time mobile counsellor. The counsellor will travel into respective United Church affiliated communities to provide a broad range of counseling services that can relate to the intergenerational affects of colonization and the common experience of residential schools. The person hired, may help individuals deal with addictions and substance abuse; family, parenting, and marital problems; suicide; stress management; problems with self-esteem; mental and emotional health. The initial communities that will be part of the visitation are Owikeeno, Bella Bella, Bella Coola, and Klemtu.

RACIAL JUSTICE WORKSHOP

Working toward racial justice in church and society is a life-long "heart" journey. We are all—people of every colour and cultural background—touched by the sin of racism. Together we must continue to learn from each other, with each other, and with the Spirit, so that we continue to break down barriers and build right relationship. The workshop is planned for the Fall Gathering of Prince Rupert Presbytery, September 24-26 in Bella Coola, There will be an introduction to the workshop on Sunday, April 25, 2010 at 6:30 pm. Haida Gwaii United Church.

www.bc.united-church.ca

BC Conference has a newly designed web site. You will want to register as an authenticated user to gain full access to information contained in the site. You can subscribe to the Conference Newsletter (Conference Calling), check out Church Events (that can be seen as a list or in Calendar format), view articles in the Spiritual Care Newsletter, check the online Conference Directory, see a map showing United Churches in BC Conference, or browse the Conference Archives for past articles on land claims and the apology.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Prince Rupert Presbytery has taken the initiative of providing support for the designing and implementation of a Vacation Bible School program geared for our First Nations communities. In partnership with the Youth & Young Adult working unit of BC Conference, the hope is the curriculum will have relevant stories and traditions of the coastal people. Have any relevant story ideas? Please share with us!

LIVING IN RIGHT RELATIONS HOME GROUP

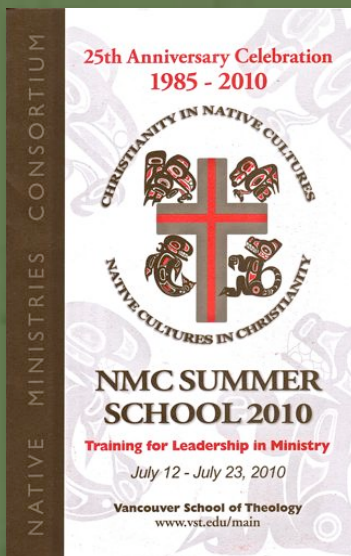
The seeds have been planted for a Conference wide event to take place in 2011. A planning meeting is scheduled for May in Prince George for Home Group members, as they work towards steering us into right relations with one another.

SUMMER SCHOOL @ VST

Native Ministries Consortium and Vancouver School of Theology are pleased to once again offer two, 1 week sessions of Summer School. Native Ministries Consortium have bursaries available. See www.vst.edu/main for more information.

Native Ministries Council also has funding available. Please contact us for more info on the application.

See 'Informing' in side bar. →



INFORMATION

Did you know?

This is a new feature for us. If you have something to share, the deadline for the Summer issue is June 15th. 2010

Passing

CHARLES SHAW - Haisla

This March, we lost a dear friend, Charlie, (Jughead) passed away after a long battle with illness. Charlie was devoted and dedicated to the United Church of Canada, as well as, the Haisla Choir, as their leader. He will be sadly missed. As our 'HERO', he will remain an inspiration to all. Our condolences and prayers go to his family and the Haisla.

Celebrating



The United Church of Canada turns 85!

**REMEMBER
RENEW
REJOICE**

www.united-church.ca/85th

Gathering

BC Conference General Meeting

There will not be a General Meeting of BC Conference in 2010. The next one, May 2011, will be held in Penticton,

2011 Annual General Gathering of Native Ministries Council

The Gathering will be held in Prince Rupert from April 21-24, 2011.

Informing

Ha'eis Clare Hill - for newsletter, Native Ministries, BC Conference, or the United Church of Canada.



mail 120 Hayimiisaxaa Way
Hartley Bay, BC V0V 1A0

email chillart@telus.net

phone 250 627 6979

Next issue Summer - July 2010

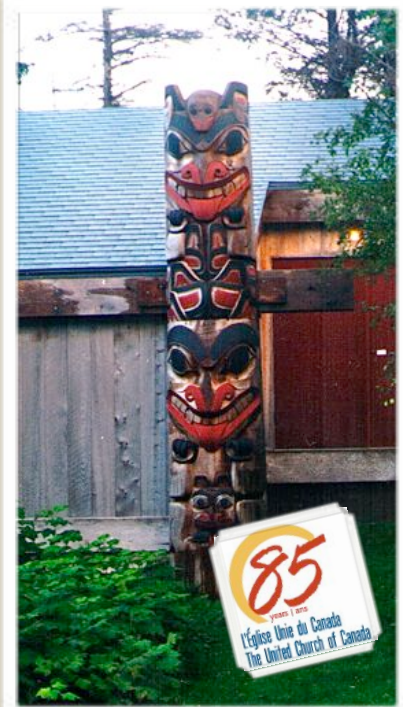
Volunteer? Anyone?

According to Volunteer Canada, "volunteering is the most fundamental act of citizenship and philanthropy in our society. It is offering time, energy and skills of one's own free will. It is an extension of being a good neighbour, transforming a collection of houses into a community, as people become involved in the improvement of their surroundings and choose to help others. By caring and contributing to change, volunteers decrease suffering and disparity, while they gain skills, self-esteem and change their lives. People work to improve the lives of their neighbours and, in return, enhance their own.

Native Ministries Council, BC Conference and the United Church of Canada are always looking for volunteers to sit on various committees. There is an urgent need for not only First Nations voices, but women and youth as well, to be heard on behalf of our communities at all

levels of the church. There are committees whose work is with Residential Schools and the legacy. As well as, committees working towards living in right relations with one another. Ethnic Ministries is a working unit that is growing and blossoming more and more and looking for our input. There is a need for oversight and support for our current ministry personnel - those ministers that are in our communities. If you feel the call; to be involved in the life of the church, to learn about the functions of the church or just want to meet new friends, then please contact Clare. See "Informing" on page 3.

Congratulations to our extraordinary volunteers, Alvin Dixon, for being named to the BC Archives Committee, Doreen Angus named to the Living in Right Relations BC Home Group. AND Ray Jones, Chris Bolton and Jim White, who sit on the newly formed, National Aboriginal Council.



See you at Haida Gwaii
Annual General Gathering
April 22 - 26, 2010



"I love living on the west coast of BC. We have been blessed by the Creator with a bounty of seafood. Here's one of my favourite recipes. If you have a favourite local recipe (and a picture of you in your chef pose), please send to me to share in future issues."

Ha'eis Clare Hill
Designated Lay Minister
Emmanuel United Church

A RECIPE FROM HARTLEY BAY

Clam Fritters

- 4 cups of chopped clams
- 1 medium onion sliced and halved
- 1 cup flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 cup water

Mix clams and onions. Mix flour and baking powder and then add to clams and onions. Add 3/4 of the cup water to the clams and mix thoroughly. Add remaining water, if, and as needed. Consistency is thin enough to pour, thick enough to keep shape in pan.
Note: arm may get sore... worth it!



Fill frying pan 1/4" of oil and heat til frying temp. 375 deg. Drop in 1/4 cup globs. Flip when brown (5-7 mins) and firm. Remove after 3-5 mins when very firm. Makes 15-18 fritters.