



Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

AHOUSAHT
DITIDAHT
ʔIIHATIS / ʔIINAʔINT
HESQUIAHT
HUPACASATH

HUU-AY-AHT
KA:ʔYU:ʔKʔTʔHʔ/CHE:K:TLES7ETʔHʔ
MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT
NUCHATLAHT
TLA-O-QUI-AHT

TOQUAHT
TSESHAHT
UCHUCKLESAHT
YUUʔ.UʔIʔATH

P.O. BOX 1383
PORT ALBERNI, BC
V9Y 7M2
Tel: 250-724-5757
Fax:250-723-0463

Nuu-chah-nulth-aht Mourns the passing of Two Great First Nation leaders.

August 19th, 2020

Port Alberni, BC – The Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council mourns the passing of Grand Chief Joe Norton of the Mohawks of Kanawake who passed away on August 7th, 2020 in his territory. We also mourn the great loss of Dr. Joseph Gosnell of the Nisga’a Nation who passed away in his own homelands on August 17th

Both men, made many notable advances and achievements for their Nations. They made their mark on the provincial and federal political landscapes. Their names are well known across this country and among respected leaders.

“I have worked with Dr. Joe Gosnell on various issues and his intelligence and eloquence were a pleasure to work with,” commented NTC President Judith Sayers. “He took the time to work with Nuuchahnulth and share Nisga’a experiences in treaty making. He was that kind of man. One who shared his knowledge and experience with others. He is a legend.”

“Dr. Joe Gosnell was one of the first-First Nation people to speak to the BC Legislature in 1998 when the enactment of their treaty was tabled. His speech was historic and he stated that the treaty was for aboriginal and non-aboriginal people to come together and write a new chapter in BC history. His wise words will never be forgotten,” said Mariah Charleson, NTC Vice-President.

Across the country in Quebec, Grand Chief Joe Norton, a well-known thought leader, also joined the ancestors this week. “I worked with Joe Norton after approximately one third of the First Nations left the Assembly of First Nations over the Constitutional talks with Canada. Joe was part of the newly formed Coalition of First Nations and worked hard to obtain a Nation to Nation process,” added Sayers. “He was always a leader with vision, integrity and commitment.

The Nuuchahnulth join First Nations and their people across this country to take time to remember two mighty warriors who spent their lives fighting for our lands, resources and rights. They helped lay the foundation for self-government and self-determination and worked for their own people which benefited all of us. We will remember their legacy and build on the foundation they laid to continue to work for the people of the land.”

-30-

Kekinusugs, Judith Sayers, President, Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council

P: 250.724.5757 ext. 231 or 25-720-5621

E: judith.sayers@nuuchahnulth.org

Mariah Charleson, Vice President, Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council

P: 250-731-7218

E: Mariah.charleson@nuuchahnulth.org

About Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council:

The Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council (NTC) provides programs and services to over 10,000 registered members. The role of the NTC is to represent 14 First Nations in three regions stretching 300 kilometers of the Pacific Coast of Vancouver Island from Brooks Peninsula in the north to Point-no-Point in the south. The NTC represents Ahousaht, Ditidaht, Ehattesaht/Chinehkint, Hesquiaht, Hupacasath, Huu-ay- aht, Kyuquot/Checklesah, Mowachaht /Muchalaht, Nuchatlaht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Toquaht, Tseshaht, Uchucklesaht and Ucluelet First Nations and provides a variety of programs and services to them.

For more information, please visit www.nuuchahnulth.org.