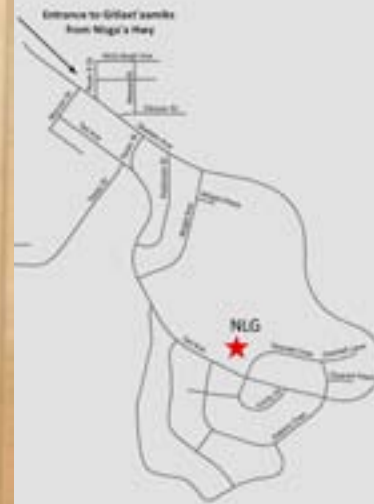


In the spirit of Sayt-K'il'im-ᑕoot (which means One Heart, One Path, One Nation) the Nisga'a Nation is a place where:

- Our Ayuuk, language, and culture are the foundation of our identity
- Learning is a way of life
- We strive for sustainable prosperity and self-reliance
- We inspire trust and understanding through effective communication, and
- Our governance and services evolve to meet our people's needs

# Nisga'a Lisims Government Guided / Self-Guided Building Tour

GITLAXT'AAMIKS///BRITISH COLUMBIA  
2000 Lisims Drive



## Location

When arriving into Gitlaxt'aamiks while driving on Skateen Ave, turn right onto Tseax St, then turn left onto Tait Ave, continue until you reach the top of Tait Ave and turn left into 2000 Lisims Drive where the Nisga'a Lisims Government Building is located.



## Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday - 9:00am to 5:00pm

## Important Information to keep in mind:

Please contact the Department of Communications and Intergovernmental Relations at 250-633-3000 to book a Guided Tour, all guided tours are required to be booked in advance. You may conduct a Self-Guided Tour with the information located inside this information brochure.



**Nisga'a Lisims  
Government**

2000 Lisims Drive / PO Box 231 / Gitlaxt'aamiks, BC V0J 1A0  
Tel: 250-633-3000 / nisgaanation.ca

## Sustainable Prosperity



**Please don't forget to sign the Guest  
Book at Lower Level Reception!**

## NLG ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



Built in 2000, to coincide with the effective date of the Nisga'a Final Agreement - May 11, 2000 - formally opened in September 2000.

It houses most of the operations of Nisga'a Lisims Government

Administration which represents Nisga'a Nation.

At the time, was the largest long-house built by an aboriginal people in BC.

It is composed of 8 sections with 5 degree turns for a total 40 degree angular turn (see beams split).

It has 2 floors, and 3 main sections: Eastern Block (houses administration), West wing (houses 4 Executive Officers and Sr. Officials) and the great hall entrance way.

## NISGA'A BLANKET



This blanket symbolizes the tripartite relationship between Canada, BC and the Nisga'a Nation who are all parties to the Nisga'a Treaty.

## NISGA'A ART



The art you see was carved by Nisga'a artists.



Ganim Silwilye'enskw: the talking stick is presented by elders at each meeting of our legislature. It is authority to speak on behalf of the Nation. It has the 5 main crests (eagle, raven, killerwhale, wolf, bear).

## WILP SI'AYUUKHL NISGA'A (WSN) - LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER



The heart of the building.

Translated literally as the House of Nisga'a Laws.

Nisga'a Treaty recognizes the lawmaking authority of Nisga'a Nation on wide range of subject matters.

On effective date, enacted 18 laws. (See the Effective Date Documents).



Note the public gallery - under our Nisga'a Constitution, WSN must enact its laws in public.

Gallery's conical shape in reference to the lava cone in our Park.

The circular shape of the tables is in reference to common bowl philosophy of the Ayuukhl Nisga'a.

## MAPS ON WALL



Nass Area in yellow = 26,000 sq. km of fishing and other constitutionally protected interests.

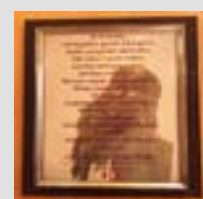
Nass Wildlife Area in grey= 16,000 sq. km of hunting and other constitutionally protected interests.

Nisga'a Lands = 2,000

sq. km full ownership.

Under our Nass Area Strategy, we bring certainty to all developments in Nass Area provided our Treaty is respected and we share in benefits.

## O'CANADA IN NISGA'A

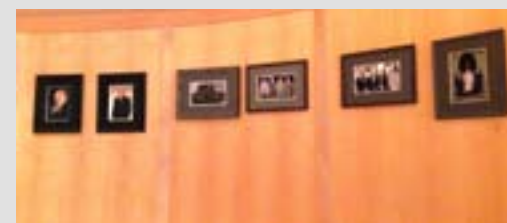


History of School District #92 (Nisga'a) - opened in 1975.

Bi-lingual and bi-cultural education delivery.

Students are taught Nisga'a Language and Culture from K-12.

## HISTORICAL PHOTOS



Since the beginning of the Land Question, our leaders expressed a willingness to negotiate a just and honourable settlement.

1. Edmond Wright - longest serving Secretary-Treasurer, currently serves in various other capacities within the Nation.
2. Former leaders: The Late Rod Robinson, Executive Director pre-Treaty; Nisga'a Ambassador.
3. 1913 Land Committee - leaders of the day who drafted the 1913 Petition to His Majesty's Privy Council in London, Eng. Asserted ownership of Nisga'a traditional territory.
4. The Late James Gosnell, The Late William McKay, Hubert Doolan, The Late Maurice Nyce.
5. Members of the Nisga'a Tribal Council outside the Gitlaxt'aamiks Old Community Hall.
6. The Late Rod Robinson, Dr. Joseph Gosnell and Dr. Frank Calder at the steps of the Legislature.

## SPEAKERS CHAIR



A gift from the Speaker of the Provincial Legislature of BC.

Commissioned local Nisga'a to build it.

The 113 abalone shells are in reference to the years required to resolve Nisga'a Land Question.

It has 4 tribes - eagle, raven, wolf, killerwhale and Hayatskw in middle.

Hayatskw - symbol of authority and wealth and legally protected national symbol similar to a coat of arms.

Txeemsim our super being sits on the top - our lawgiver who delivered hope and enlightenment.

## NISGA'A FLAG



Nisga'a flag symbolizes our creation story.

We lived in darkness, Txeemsim brought down fire.

Now we live in the light of day.

Rainbow = creators promise after the great flood.

## PAST PRESIDENTS



The Late Dr. Frank Calder - established Nisga'a Tribal Council to pursue Land Question in accordance with 1913 Petition and brought Calder case to Supreme Court of Canada

James Gosnell - one of Canada's finest orators who debated Prime Minister Trudeau on aboriginal title stating, "We own this land lock, stock and barrel"

Alvin McKay - first Nisga'a Superintendent of School District No. 92, and obtained a Masters degree in Education

Dr. Joseph Gosnell - oversaw the ratification of the Nisga'a Final Agreement and addressed the BC legislature.

Nelson Leeson - All Native tournament all-star, well known throughout BC.

H. Mitchell Stevens - In his 6 years as President Stevens actively pursued the mandate of sustainable prosperity to establish a diverse economy to better the quality of life of the Nisga'a Nation and its citizens.

Current President: Eva Clayton

## GREAT HALL PLAQUES



1913 Petition: set out the mandate to resolve the Nisga'a Land question demanding recognition of our land ownership and authority to govern ourselves.

Certificate recognizing the Nisga'a Hayatskw as a Coat of Arms.

Certificate recognizing the Nisga'a Hayatskw.