

## INAC Express

As the Editor of Express at Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), I managed submissions to the national departmental newsletter on a weekly.

**Below are my writing samples:**

### **November 11 – November 17, 2010:**

#### **B.C. Does the Monster Mash**

It was a Graveyard Bash! The GCWCC finished strongly in BC Region on October 29, drawing in huge crowds to observe the most anticipated event of the year: the Halloween Costume Contest. Treaties and Aboriginal Government's Susan Durieux and Rosaleen Carroll re-interpreted the infamous Thelma and Louise car chase, bringing them to fourth place. Mary Cunningham *Viva Las Vegas'd* her way to third with a stylish Elvis impression. Holly Crowell and her seven dwarves conveyed a magical Disney moment by spoofing various scenes in the story. First place went to James Gill and his minions, who stole the show with his portrayal of Dr. Drew from new movie: *Despicable Me*. For more pictures visit the [BC Intranet](#).



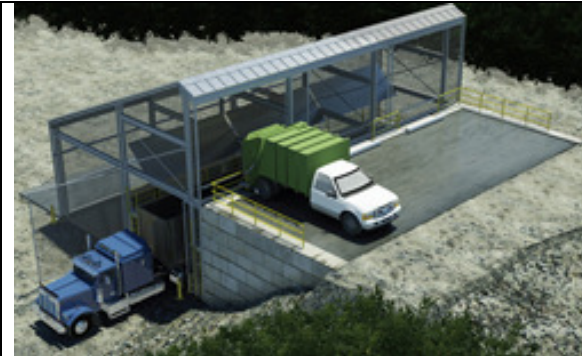
First Place: James Gill as Dr. Drew from movie *Despicable Me*.



Second Place: Evil Queen Grimhilde and Holly Crowell as Snow White.

**November 18 – November 24, 2010:  
Coastal First Nation Takes Significant Steps to Zero-Waste**

On November 5, 2010, Bella Bella held a community celebration to officially name the new solid waste management facility: "Ha'aikila Qnts 'Waxv:wiusax" (Taking Care of Our Land). The First Nation recently launched the new solid waste management program, providing a "best practices" solution to their community while furthering sustainable environmental stewardship and management. The program provides for the collection, sorting, recycling and composting of solid waste at the new First Nations transfer station site.



3-D Rendering of the Bella Bella Solid Waste Transfer facility.



Bella Bella school children participated in a "Reduce, Re-Use and Recycle" poster contest to mark the naming ceremony for the new solid waste management facility.

**November 25 – December 1, 2010:**  
**Partnership Brings Clean Energy to Lower St'at'imc Nations**

On November 12, 2010 members of the Lower St'at'imc Nations (Skatin, Douglas and Samahquam), and representatives from Canada, the Province and BC Hydro gathered to celebrate the completion of the Southern Communities Grid Connection project. The Lower St'at'imc Nations are now receiving clean and reliable power by connecting to BC Hydro's electrical grid through 30 kilometres of new distribution lines and two new substations, which replace diesel powered generators. Lower St'at'imc Nations are the first communities to receive electricity through BC Hydro's Remote Community Electrification program. The \$30 million project was financed by INAC and BC Hydro.



Lower St'at'imc drummers initiate the ceremony with a performance.



Community members gather to celebrate the completion of the Southern Communities Grid Connection project.

**December 9 – December 15, 2010:  
BC First Nation graduates from Water Treatment Technology  
Program**

Four years ago, BC Region invited BC First Nation communities to submit names of individuals to further their education at Thompson River University's (TRU) Water Treatment Technology Program. Thirteen BC First Nations students have now walked out with a diploma. Throughout the program, students worked hard to achieve work/life balance while juggling school assignments, projects and exams. On November 3, TRU held a ceremony to celebrate the students' achievements. Funding for students' tuitions, travel and accommodations was provided by INAC.



Danny Higishitani (INAC) with top students Jim Brown (Lytton First Nation and top overall student for the program); Warren Brown (Lytton First Nation and top academic student for semester 4); Peter Elson (INAC)



Group Photo (from left to right): Geronimo Adams (Ashcroft First Nation); Jim Brown (Lytton First Nation); Barney Stewart (Kispiox First Nation); Jeff Coombs (Takla Lake First Nation); Clayton Michell (Moricetown First Nation); Todd Coles (T'kemplups Indian Band); Mel Paul (T'kemplups Indian Band); Darren Robertson (West Moberly Lake First Nation); Floyd Naziel (Moricetown First Nation); Allan Hackett (Sliammon First Nation); June Williams (Lake Babine First Nation); Warren Brown (Lytton first Nation); Richard Inkster (Kitsumkalum First Nation)

**January 3 – 19, 2011:  
2010 BC Aboriginal Business Awards**

Aboriginal entrepreneurs in BC were awarded for their business excellence at an annual gala last month. Candidates were evaluated based on the viability, sustainability and competitiveness of their businesses. The award winners who receive support through INAC's [Aboriginal Business Development Program](#) include: PAC 10 Tutoring, Ellis Excavating Ltd., Coast Tsimshian Resources, Theytus Books, Kekuli Café & Aboriginal Foods and Catering, and Jag's Beanstalk. [Watch](#) individual video clips of recipients' businesses in their respective awards categories.



2010 Young Female Entrepreneur of the Year Award recipient, Amy Dopson, owner of PAC10 Tutoring, with Premier Gordon Campbell.



BC Aboriginal Business Awards recipients.

**January 27 – February 2, 2011:  
Tsawwassen Matcon Join Venture**

The B.C. business community learned about the advantages of First Nation joint ventures at a breakfast hosted by the [Industry Council for Aboriginal Business \(ICAB\)](#) in Vancouver. In December, Tsawwassen First Nation, Chief Kim Baird, and Matcon Group CEO, Ron Amos, described their unique and profitable business partnership. Tsawwassen Construction and Matcon Joint Venture has secured over \$16 million in construction and land development contracts creating over 6,800 employment hours for Tsawwassen members. For more information visit [ICAB's](#) website.

