



GWAI TRUST CELEBRATES 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY WITH FREE MUSEUM ADMISSIONS FOR ALL ISLAND RESIDENTS

Haida Gwaii residents can visit three local museums free of charge this year, thanks to a gift from the Gwaii Trust Society to mark its 25th anniversary.

“The Gwaii Trust board believes that sharing the history, language, arts and culture of Haida Gwaii is a great way to celebrate the history of the Gwaii Trust,” said Chief Operations Officer Carla Lutner.

“The board also recognizes the important contributions that the museums make to life on Haida Gwaii,” Lutner said. “We’re excited that this gift will allow more residents to visit the museums more often throughout the next year.”

The free admission initiative started on April 1, 2019 and runs until March 31, 2020. To receive free admission to the Haida Gwaii Museum in Skidegate, the Port Clements Museum, or the Dixon Entrance Maritime Museum in Masset, Islanders simply have to show valid government-issued ID with a local address at the admissions desk. (People of Haida ancestry, resident or otherwise, do not pay admission at the Haida Gwaii Museum; access to other public areas in the Haida Heritage Centre—where the museum is located—is free for all residents and visitors alike).

In response, the museums are bubbling over with enthusiasm, as are locals.

“Haawa—thank you to the Gwaii Trust for this spectacular gift to the Islands, and happy 25th anniversary from the Haida Gwaii Museum and Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay! With a vision to ‘inspire understanding and respect for all that Haida Gwaii is,’ our team is super excited for all Islanders to come and visit their museum over and over again. Art, language and culture are critical to the spiritual, social and economic health of any society. Knowing our shared history is integral to understanding our place in this world and finding ways forward together.

The people of Haida Gwaii work hard to ensure the museum and heritage centre contribute to our Islands and beyond in good ways. We are grateful for this and thrilled to know we will be seeing everyone more often!” said Nika Collison, Executive Director, Haida Gwaii Museum and Seraphine Price, Supervisor, Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay.

“The Port Clements Historical Society is grateful to the Gwaii Trust for creating its 25th Anniversary Fund which will pay for Island residents to enjoy free access to all three museums for a year,” said Joan Hein, Historical Coordinator at the Port Clements Museum. “Our focus on post-contact industrial, commercial and domestic machinery provides insight into recent history, including the issues that led to the creation of the Gwaii Trust itself.”

“The board of the Dixon Entrance Maritime Museum Society is thrilled with the support the Gwaii Trust Society has given to local museums and cultural institutions to celebrate a very important milestone!” said Jen Bailey, Chair of the Dixon Entrance Maritime Museum Board of Directors. “Thank you to the Board and staff of Gwaii Trust. We hope all Island residents will enjoy this year of discovery and learn more about the history of our wonderful home.”

NEW YOUTH BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED!

We are looking for young people (13 to 21 years old) to join our Youth Board. You must have an interest in local youth initiatives, basic computer literacy, be willing to read and discuss funding applications, and be available for four to six meetings a year. We provide an honorarium for meeting attendance and a technology allowance. Visit our website for more information, or contact joey.rudichuk@gwaitrust.com for more information.