



## SUMMER KAYAK CAMP BRINGS YOUTH TOGETHER

Nine young people spent a week this summer gaining kayak and wilderness skills, enjoying time outside with friends, and connecting with an elder thanks to an innovative program organized by Skidegate's Ngystle Society.

"Kayaking for Youth and Elders" took place over a sunny five-day stretch in August, ending with an overnight camping trip. The youth participants learned about kayaking, responsible camping and fire safety from local guides Luke and Kye Borserio, while the Haida elder shared traditional knowledge through song, a fire circle and quality time. Everyone enjoyed berry picking and pitched in to help clean up garbage from the beaches. Many of the youth said learning how to roll over in the kayak was the

highlight of the week, and answered a whole-hearted "yes" when asked if they would like to participate in a program like this again.

The Ngystle Society applied for a Gwaii Trust Youth Grant to make the kayaking program possible. Our youth board - which reviews and makes decisions on all youth grants - approved the application, enthusiastic about its potential to create meaningful connections between youth, elders and nature, and intercultural understanding and respect.

If you're interested in learning more about Gwaii Trust Youth Grants, or our other grant programs, please visit our website at [gwaiitrust.com](http://gwaiitrust.com)

*Photos by Colin Richardson*



## LEARN GRANT WRITING SKILLS!

We will be holding FREE grant writing workshops in Port Clements and Old Massett in the coming weeks. Whether you are interested in learning the basics of preparing a Gwaii Trust grant application or you are an experienced grant writer, you will be sure to find tons of useful information to help with your applications. Sessions will be held:

- at the **Port Clements** village office on Saturday, Nov. 19 from 10 am to noon. **Please register for this workshop by Nov. 14.**
- at the Gwaii Trust office in **Old Massett** on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 10 am to noon. **Please register for this workshop by Dec. 5.**

**NOTE:** We must have at least five participants signed up for each workshop. Register by calling Megan Dorrington at 250-626-3654 or by emailing [megan.dorrington@gwaiitrust.com](mailto:megan.dorrington@gwaiitrust.com)