



A new and improved Gwaii Trust website is on the way!

The Gwaii Trust website is currently undergoing a complete redesign. We'll be rolling out changes throughout 2019, with the first major transformation scheduled for the end of March. Our new website will make it much easier to apply for grants and get information about our programs and initiatives. Haw'aa/Haawa to everyone who provided feedback in our recent survey. The results are helping us prioritize the most important features as we go through the website development process.

We've hired Victoria-based website developer PathWise Solutions to undertake this very important work. Part of our agreement with the team at PathWise included the opportunity to provide a mentorship to an emerging designer or web developer on Haida Gwaii. This person would be included as a member of the project team, with the internship lasting for the duration of the project. It's a great way to develop local skills and talent.

We offered this mentorship to Shellene Van der Beke, owner of the Haida Gwaii Trader, and she has been working with the website developer on the construction of our new site. In the process, she will be learning many skills that will assist her with the ongoing management of the Trader website. For Shellene, it's an amazing opportunity.

"You'd think that as a small business owner running a website that I'd have lots of knowledge about website development, but in fact, I don't," she said. "I've always hired other people for this type of work. Thus, the opportunity to work with the Gwaii Trust website redesign mentorship is proving to be hugely valuable!"

Congratulations, Shellene. It's a win-win situation when we can help build new skills locally while undertaking long-awaited improvements to our website.