



February 25, 2026

6:30PM – 9:00PM

Zoom

In Attendance:

Laura (Goox) Beaton, Emmy O’Gorman, Billy Yovanovich, Lori Wiedeman, Tarah Samuels, Valine Brown, Bret Jonston, Donald (Duffy) Edgars, Berry Wijdeven, Lisa Bell, Karen Dean

Regrets:

Maureen Bailey, Flavien Mabit, Lisa Hageman

Staff:

Chief Executive Officer Latasha Williams, Executive and Finance Assistant Angel Brown

Note: The following is accurate reporting of the meetings as they occurred; however, these minutes are not to be constructed as a verbatim report of all conversations that transpired, but rather a reflection of the outcome of those discussions, where necessary members have been quoted as closely as possible.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm.

2. Message from the Chair & Opening Prayer

The Chair welcomed everyone. Goox offered an opening Xaayda Kil prayer.

3. Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to agenda.

4. Call for adoptions to the agenda

The agenda for February 25, 2026, Board Allocation meeting was approved as presented.

Moved by Lori. Seconded by Bret.

CARRIED

5. Consent Agenda

The following items were adopted as presented.

- a. CEO Report February 2026
- b. 2025-12 GTS Financial Report
- c. Previous Minutes, January 22, 2026

Moved by Bret. Seconded by Duffy.

CARRIED

6. Audit Planning Report from CNB

The Board of Directors reviewed and approved the Audit Planning Report from CNB as presented.

Moved by Berry. Seconded by Lori.

CARRIED

7. Niislaa Naay Healing House Society Letter of Support

The Board of Directors reviewed the letter of support to release the funds for expansion of the Niislaa Naay Healing House Society.

Moved by Berry. Seconded by Billy.

CARRIED

8. Executive Committee Recommendations

The Board of Directors approved the Executive Committee's recommendations to amend the 2026 budget as follows:

- To increase the 2026 Administrative Budget by \$25,000 to support in-person Board governance training.
- To allocate \$10,000 within the 2026 Administrative Budget for in-person support from New Relationship Trust staff regarding the Athlii Gwaii Legacy grants; and
- To amend the 2026 Grants Budget to include a \$600,000 Major Contribution Grant.

Moved by Berry. Seconded by Lori.

CARRIED

9. Haida Gwaii Community Foundation Committee Recommendations

The Board of Directors approved both HGCF recommendations.

First, that the \$150,000 donation from the Lawson Foundation be allocated to the current endowment funds within the Haida Gwaii Community Foundation as outlined:

	Current Total	Lawson	% of Lawson	GT Matching	Final Fund	Match Remain
Literacy HG	\$370.00	\$45,000.00	30.00%	\$45,000.00	\$90,370.00	\$4,815.00
Hope Air	\$1,300.00	\$40,000.00	26.67%	\$40,000.00	\$81,300.00	\$9,350.00
Gwaii Animal Helpline	\$54,010.00	\$35,000.00	23.33%	\$27,005.00	\$116,015.00	\$0.00
Carl Hart	\$639,713.00	\$30,000.00	20.00%		\$669,713.00	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$695,393.00	\$150,000.00	100.00%	\$112,005.00	\$957,398.00	\$14,165.00

Second, that the endowment funds be transferred from a non-interest-bearing account into low-risk term deposit accounts, with the CEO providing regular updates to the Board through the monthly reporting process.

Moved by Lori. Seconded by Bret.

CARRIED

10. Motions for Consideration from CEO

The Board of Directors reviewed and approved the following motions for consideration by the CEO:

- Grant Angel Brown, Executive and Finance Assistant, view-only access to Central 1.
- To Grant Angel view-only access to all Northern Savings Credit Union accounts held by Gwaii Trust, Athlii Gwaii Legacy, and Haida Gwaii Community Foundation.
- Allow Angel to have access to Ceridian/DayForce/PowerPay.
- Allow Angel to have access to Sage50.
- To adopt a 4-day staggered work week for some staff, while maintaining 35 work hours per week.
- Approve the Gwaii Trust Society Work Schedule Policy.
- That the reward points accumulated on the Gwaii Trust Society company credit card (Collabria) be authorized for use toward staff and board members travel expenses related to official Gwaii Trust Society business.
- That the Board authorize the CEO to attend the 13th annual NATOA Trust & Investment Conference in Ottawa from March 30 to April 1, 2026 and that the CEO provide a report to the Board in the subsequent monthly report.

Moved by Berry. Seconded by Valine.

CARRIED

11. Arts Intake

Billy Yovanovich, Director, Skidegate Band Council, declared conflict.

The Board of Directors reviewed ten (10) Arts grant applications and approved six (6) of the grant applications under the Arts for a total of \$39,973.69 and four (4) applications that didn't fit the timeline for the Arts Mentorship intake to be approved within the Arts Mentorship grant, as an exception, for a total of \$39,627.98.

a.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts	Forge and Fire by Amber Faktor	\$3,207.50	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
b.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts	Wood to Water Phase 1 by Dixon Entrance Museum	\$10,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
c.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts	Judy Hilgemann Solo Art Exhibition by Judy C Hilgemann	\$1,940.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
d.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts	Advanced Graphic Facilitation Training by Juila Weder	\$4,826.19	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
e.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts	Explorations in the Art of Sound Healing by Pamela Ewasiuk	\$10,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
f.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts	Dancing in the Footsteps of Our Ancestors by Skil Jaadee White	\$10,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
g.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts Mentorship	Apprenticing Under Billy NC Yovanovich by Gavin Russ	\$9,888.99	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	

h.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts Mentorship	Portrait Mask by Logan Seward	\$9,850.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
i.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts Mentorship	Haida Dance Pieces Mentorship by Lyle Campbell	\$10,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	
j.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Arts Mentorship	Learning to Carve Wood with B. Yovanovich by Melanie Russ	\$9,888.99	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman Valine Brown	CARRIED	

12. Community Innovation Intake

The Gwaii Trust Society Board of Directors reviewed nine (9) Community Innovation applications and approved the following seven (7) for a total of \$38,000.

a.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Community Innovation	Banff Film Festival by DG Community Hall	\$2,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Berry Wijdeven Lori Wiedeman	CARRIED	
b.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Community Innovation	Wellness Wednesday by Haida Gwaii Hospital and Health Centre	\$5,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Berry Wijdeven Lori Wiedeman	CARRIED	
c.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Community Innovation	LGBTQ+ Social and Skills sharing by Haida Gwaii Queer Trans Collective	\$7,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Berry Wijdeven Lori Wiedeman	CARRIED	
d.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Community Innovation	Technology upgrade for safety and accessibility by Island Wellness Society	\$5,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve: Seconded:	Berry Wijdeven Lori Wiedeman	CARRIED	

e.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Community Innovation	Sandspit Fitness Centre by Sandspit Community Society	\$10,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve:	Berry Wijdeven	CARRIED	
	Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman		
f.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Community Innovation	Totem to totem marathon race event by Totem to Totem Haida Marathon Society	\$4,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve:	Berry Wijdeven	CARRIED	
	Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman		
g.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Community Innovation	Cultivating safe spaces by Village of Daajing Giids	\$5,000.00	To make it accessible to all-island residents.
	Motion to Approve:	Berry Wijdeven	CARRIED	
	Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman		

Valine Brown, Director, CHN Old Massett, left at 8:25pm.

13. Youth Intake

The Gwaii Trust Society Board of Directors reviewed and approved the Youth Board recommendation to approve the six (6) of the seven (7) Youth Grant applications for a total of \$51,000.

a.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Youth	HGYC Outdoor Cultural Leadership by Council of the Haida Nation	\$5,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve:	Berry Wijdeven	CARRIED	
	Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman		
b.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Youth	Camp Island Connections by Haida Gwaii Recreation	\$10,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve:	Berry Wijdeven	CARRIED	
	Seconded:	Lori Wiedeman		
c.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Youth	Summer Youth Day Camp by Haida Gwaii Recreation	\$10,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve:	Berry Wijdeven	CARRIED	
d.	Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
	Youth	Spring/Summer Youth Coordinator by Laskeek Bay	\$6,000.00	N/A
	Motion to Approve:	Berry Wijdeven	CARRIED	

Seconded: Lori Wiedeman

Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
e. Youth	Summer Series Basketball Tournament by Skidegate Band Council	\$10,000.00	To provide an updated budget to show what GTS will be covering.

Motion to Approve: Berry Wijdeven
Seconded: Lori Wiedeman
CARRIED

Grant	Name	Amount	Conditions
f. Youth	Certifying Youth for Gwaii Haanas by Swan Bay Rediscovery Society	\$10,000.00	N/A

Motion to Approve: Berry Wijdeven
Seconded: Lori Wiedeman
CARRIED

14. Athlii Gwaii Legacy Update from Evelyn Lavrisa

The Board of Directors decided to table decision until after the Athlii Gwaii Legacy Committee meeting.

15. Next Meeting Date

- a. Audit & Finance 2025 Q4 – March 4 – 6:30-8:30pm
- b. Youth Board – Youth Centered Intake – March 9 – 4:30pm-6:30pm
- c. Board – Allocation & Governance – March 25 – 6:30pm-9:00pm
- d. Athlii Gwaii Legacy Committee – April 1 – 6:30pm-8:30pm

16. In-Camera

The Board of Directors motioned moving to In-Camera at 8:40pm

Moved by Billy. Seconded by Bret.

CARRIED

Angel Brown left the meeting at 8:40pm.

Latasha Williams left the meeting at 9:02pm.

That any discussion of a 360-degree review will be put on hold until there is a job description and performance plan and that the Board meet in-person within ten (10) business days.

Moved by Lori. Seconded by Bret.

CARRIED

Latasha Williams returned to the meeting at 9:31pm.

17. Adjournment

The Chair motioned to adjourn at 9:36pm. Motion moved by Bret.