

Raincoast Interpretive Centre
First Nations Young Naturalists
2005-2006
Final Report
June 2006

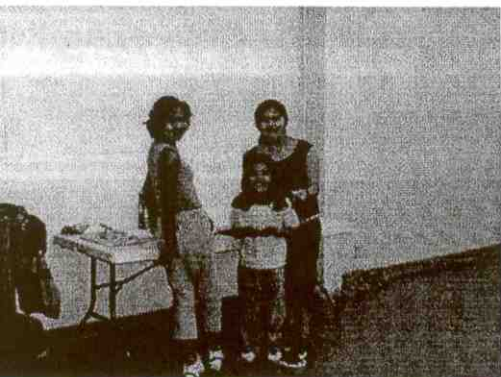
Submitted to the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust
by the Raincoast Education Society
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**Purpose:**

This report provides information on activities undertaken by the Raincoast Interpretive Centre (RIC, operated by the Raincoast Education Society) to provide out-of-school programs that engage youth and youth at risk in the more isolated and rural parts of the Clayoquot Biosphere Reserve Region including the fall of 2005 and spring of 2006. This initiative was made possible by funding from the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust.

**Program objectives:**

- With the guidance of First Nation advisors from each community, develop and deliver after-school programs in each of the five Central Region Nuuchahnulth First Nations communities.
- Hire and provide training for local high school students (youth interns) to assist in the delivery and evaluation of the after-school program. The programs were to be delivered once in each of the Central Region Nuuchahnulth First Nations communities (Ahousaht, Hot Springs, Ittatsoo, Opitsaht and Esowista).
- Hire a local First Nations youth interpreter to work on both the development and delivery of the summer program with assistance and guidance from the RIC program director. This person will develop skills in research, communication, educational programming and building on their knowledge of the natural environment and Nuuchahnulth culture.
- Evaluate the program and make necessary changes to incorporate it as a yearly RES activity.



Funds received: \$3,542.00

Program Accomplishments:

- In the program planning stage, Marcia Moncur, the Program Interpreter for the RIC met with several members of the First Nations communities including parents, teachers and counselors (for example: Naomi Seitcher, TFN at Wickaninnish Elementary School; Lil Webster, teacher in Ahousaht; Crystal Tom, teacher in Hot Springs; and Cecilia Jackson, parent in Esowista). These meetings helped form bonds with community members and also add invaluable input for program

