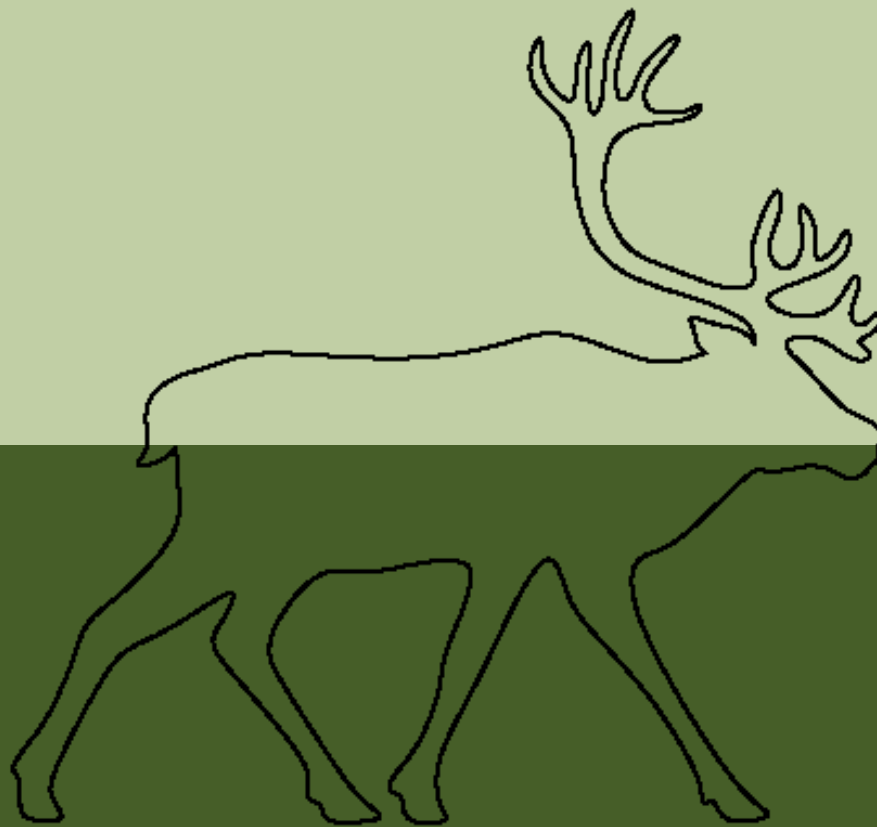
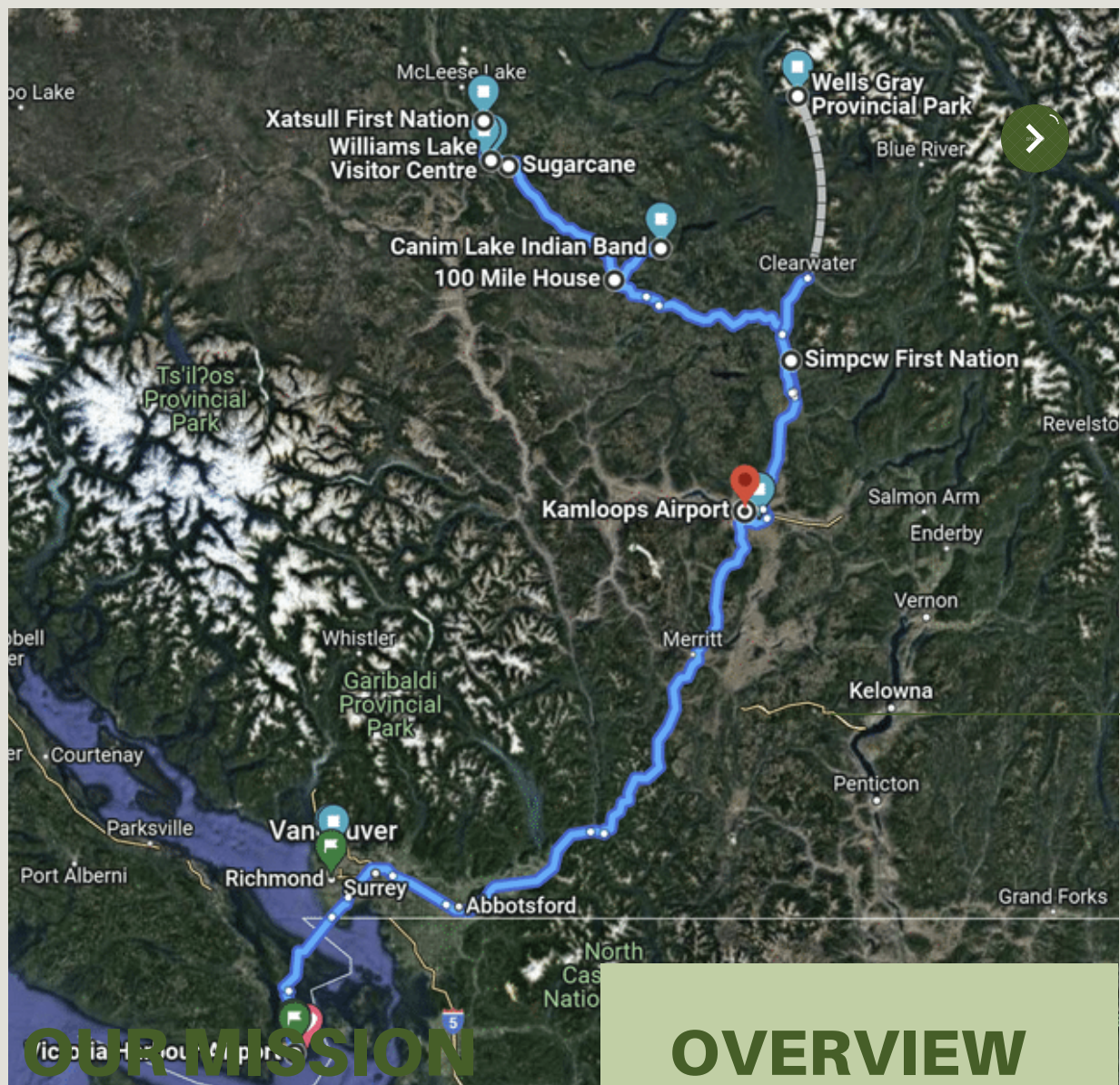




HARMONY FOUNDATION TRIP REPORT

Oct.11-14, 2022





OUR MISSION

From October 11th to 14th, 2022 Michael Bloomfield and Lanlin Bu from Harmony Foundation visited Canim Lake Band, Simpcw First Nation, Williams Lake First Nation, and Xats'ull First Nation. This was an excellent opportunity for the representatives in the coalition to meet with each other and staff, elders and community members.

OVERVIEW

Harmony Foundation has partnered with **Canim Lake Band, Simpcw First Nation, Williams Lake First Nation, and Xats'ull First Nation** to form a coalition to create the **Great Caribou Rainforest Conservation Area (GCRCA)** as an Indigenous-led conservation initiative. The GCRCA proposes 1,629,238 hectares of conservation land within BC's Inland Temperate Rainforest.

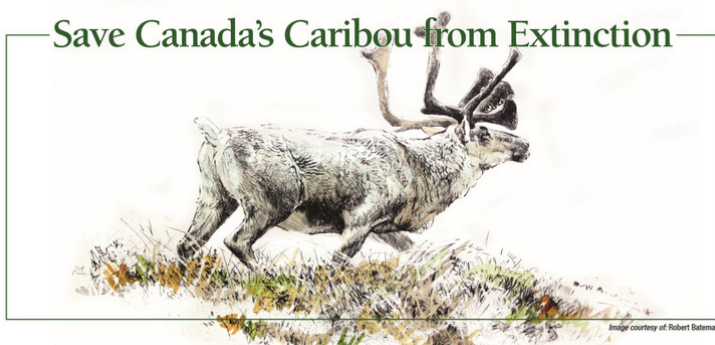
IN PERSON MEETINGS

- Oct.11, 2022, Harmony team and the GCR Coordinator **Spencer Neufeld** met with **Tina Donald** (Fisheries & Wildlife Manager) and **Paul van Velzen** (Resources Group, Manager) from **Simpcw First Nation**.
- Oct.12, 2022, **Don Dixon** (Natural Resources Coordinator) from **Canim Lake Band** organized an open meeting with members of Canim Lake. Harmony team and Spencer Neufeld attended the meeting in person, while **Nishitha Singi** from **Williams Lake First Nation** and **Emily Sonnatag** from **Xatsúll First Nation** attended online.
- Oct.13, 2022, Harmony team and Spencer Neufeld met with **Mike Stinson** (Councillor & Mining Coordinator), **Emily Sonntag** (Natural Resource Coordinator), Max Winkelman, Kelly Menakian and other staff from **Xatsúll First Nation**.
- Oct.13, 2022, Harmony team and Spencer Neufeld had a luncheon meeting with **Elders from Williams Lake**.
- Oct.13, 2022, Spencer Neufeld accompanied Harmony team to visit Williams Lake's office and meet with **Nishitha Singi** (Natural Resources/Economic Development Referrals Coordinator), **John Walker** (Natural Resources/Economic Development Stewardship Forester) and other staff from various departments.



Harmony's Gifts to the Nations

'CARIBOU CROSSING: An original painting by Adrian Baker completed in 2021 and reproduced in 2022. The original painting is oil and acrylic on canvas, 34" X 48" (unframed).



'Save Canada's Caribou from Extinction: Created from **Robert Bateman's Woodland Caribou** (Original Lithograph). Robert Bateman is Harmony's Honorary Chair.





Meeting with Elders from Williams Lake First Nation

PLAN AHEAD

The Coalition had a chance to map out priorities over the next few months

- **Identity building:** create the Coalition's website; review and approve governing documents;
- **Surveys:** to learn each Nation's priorities, resources, capacities and needs
- **Capacity building:** provide training opportunities for staff & youth, especially in indigenous-led conservation, low-carbon economy, ecosystem management
- Review existing land-use & resource management plans
- Continue engaging and urging BC & Canada
- Potential funding opportunities for GCR's long-term development

REVIEWS & UPDATES

Harmony team and GCR Coordinator Spencer Neufeld had the chance to:

- **Introduce GCR Initiative** to staff and community members in each Nation, and answer their questions
- **Update progress**, especially discussions with governments, funders and other supporters
- Reviewed and approved the **Terms of Reference**
- Updated Nations' **funding applications**



Michael Bloomfield (Harmony) & Don Dixon (Canim Lake) presenting the gift - Adrian Baker's painting "Caribou Crossing"