



# NORTHERN SAVINGS

CREDIT UNION

April 24, 2026

## Northern Savings Raises a GyaaGang Totem Pole in its Daajing Giids Location

Northern Savings Credit Union operates two branches on the territory of the Haida Nation - Masset and Daajing Giids. The credit union is committed to taking real action in its journey to Reconciliation and is implementing the Calls to Action for Business as outlined by the Truth & Reconciliation Commission.

Northern Savings wishes to honour Haida Title and the people of Haida Gwaii by working with the Haida Nation to have presence in both of its Haida Gwaii locations. With the assistance of Council of the Haida Nation (CHN), Heredity Chiefs Council, and the Haida Gwaii Museum (HGM) and Swiilawiid Sustainability Society through their partnered program, Hlk'ayk'ii: To Start a Fire, the credit union launched a Request for Proposal to raise a GyaaGang in 2024. During the RFP process, seven applications from Haida artists were received and a selection committee was formed.

Northern Savings final decision was to select Kuuya Micheal Moody - a Xaayda Haida artist from HIGaagilda Skidegate from the Raven Clan of Naay Kun KiiGawaay.

Kuuya named the GyaaGang, Gina 'l'aa SGun Good Fortune, "my design depicts 'WaasGuu Sea Wolf, a supernatural being which ferries the deep-sea frog – the embodiment of luck, wealth, and prosperity. Anyone who sees the deep-sea frog is said to receive good fortune in all forms," said Kuuya.

Northern Savings President & CEO said, "we are deeply honoured to raise Gina 'l'aa SGun at our Daajing Giids branch. We look forward to sharing this spectacular GyaaGang with our Members and the community. It is a privilege to be part of this community, and this Pole stands as a powerful representation of culture, tradition, language, and reconciliation. I wish to thank Micheal Moody, HGM, CHN, Heredity Chiefs Council, the Selection Committee, SHIP, and many others for their tremendous roles in guiding us on this journey."

The raising of Gina 'l'aa SGun will take place on May 1, 2026, from 1pm-5pm. With the event starting in a good way with a Food Burning ceremony, followed by the Totem Pole raising inside Northern Savings branch - with refreshments, speeches, dancing, and gift giving at Spirit Square to end the day.

### About Northern Savings Credit Union

Northern Savings has been part of the financial co-operative movement since 1940, operating on the traditional unceded lands of the Haida people and the traditional territories of the Ts'msyen Nation. Guided by its mission and vision statements, Northern Savings is committed to improving the financial health of more than 17,000 member-owners and building sustainable Northern communities.

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