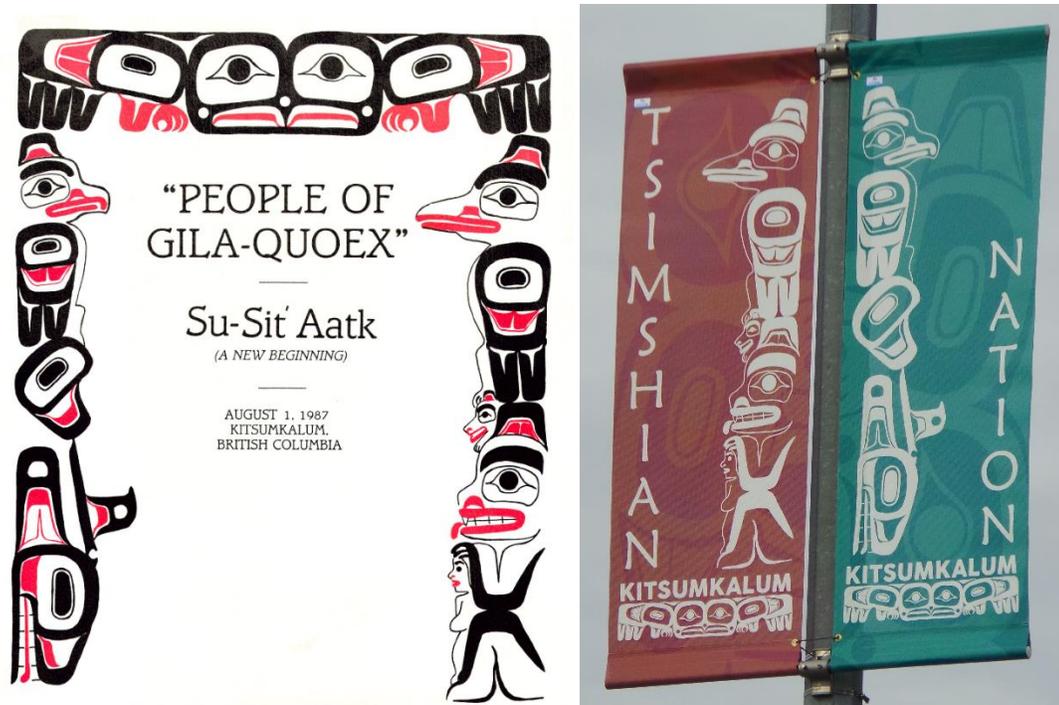


Celebrating our Heritage and Culture – Bringing it back to Su-sit' Aatk

You'll notice new street banners being installed along the entrance to Kitsumkalum IR1, to help celebrate who we are as Tsimshian and remember back to 1987 Su-sit' Aatk crest pole raising and potlatch.

The street banners are a blend of the past and present, incorporating original artwork from the modern Su-sit' Aatk crest pole and the present day robin logo of Kitsumkalum.



The modern crest pole that was carved in 1987 by Kalum carvers lead by Freda Diesing has all the major village crests on it to represent the whole community. Dedicated to the children, this pole signifies the future.

The other pole, a replica of an older pole, displays crests of one of the ancient families of Kitsumkalum.

We are a strong and proud galts'ap (community) and want to celebrate our heritage and culture and remind our future generations and those travelling along our community that we are Tsimshian and we have a rich culture and laxyuup that stems from the Kalum Valley, down the Skeena River to the Coast of Prince Rupert.

"I hope that the younger people will take this as a go-ahead to [encourage] them... to get into other areas of our culture, like our language, and other ways that our people had lived. We can't go back to the old ways completely, but there are parts of it that we can use along with today's way of living... I have to say that it's a very proud moment for our village... Also for all the people in this area- native people and non-native people alike." – Clifford Bolton, 1987 Interview on Su-sit' Aatk, Article for Royal Ontario Museum

"In explaining Su-sit' Aatk to the audience, Chief Cliff Bolton of Kitsumkalum said that Canadian Laws have made it difficult for the Tsimshian to retain their culture. This celebration was his generation's way of telling the children that the next generation will have to be prepared to fight for the survival of their culture." – Clifford Bolton, 1987 Interview on Su-sit' Aatk, Article for Royal Ontario Museum

2017 will mark the 30th anniversary of Su-sit' Aatk, and planning for a commemorative celebration is already underway to strengthen Kitsumkalum wuwaap (house groups) raise more crest poles, and to continue to accept Clifford Bolton's challenge of future generations taking the lead in ensuring the survival of our culture.

Street banners flags made possible by the financial contributions by House of Sim-oi-ghets, Kitsumkalum Tempo Gas Bar, Kalum Ventures Ltd., Kalum Rock Quarry and Kitsumkalum Band.



Clifford Bolton, Sandra Wesley, Myrtle Laidlaw, Dorothy Horner, Vernon Horner, Freda Diesing, Lorraine McCarthy, Vera Henry

