



## B.C. First Nations Head Start **Our Summer Parade**

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WE ARE THE SKIDEGATE HEAD START PROGRAM located on Haida Gwaii which is on the Queen Charlotte Islands. Each spring marks the arrival of the grey whales which are on their migratory journey! With them come the salmon and the sea lions and together we welcome the summer solstice.

Each year the community joins with our close neighbors in Charlotte to celebrate. We have a parade as well as lots of community events and games for all.

This year I thought it would be nice for all of our families to join in with our own float for the parade. Skidegate is currently constructing a beautiful museum to showcase our Haida Artists both past and present and I felt that a float which represents the Haida Culture would be exciting and a symbol of pride for the community.

We have chosen the "Skaana" which means "Killer Whale" in Haida. We will be creating a float and having the young children participate throughout the parade and as a group we will also have a booth with information on what the Head Start Program stands for. At the booth we will also be facilitating some art activities and displaying some of our programs art masterpieces.

Our program operates in conjunction with Skidegate Daycare which is accessed by all the communities on Haida Gwaii. I truly feel that a stronger bond between Head Start and the other families will enhance and enrich the lives of our young people. These connections can only strengthen relationships and create acceptance and respect for cultural diversity now and in the future.

Thank you for allowing us this sharing and all the best to every program out there!

Donna Hodgson  
Skidegate Head Start