



## ARCHITECTURE

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dk Architecture is a socially responsible, First Nation architecture firm that provides full architectural services for projects of varying types and scales specializing in First Nations architecture.

*“Architecture should respond to, and be cultivated from the unique qualities of its surrounding environment.*

*Materials and the poetics of construction should be amplified by current social and physical context.*

*Architecture is the thoughtful gathering of what already exists to reveal the nature of the place”*

## About

dk Architecture is First Nation architecture firm specializing in culturally grounded, community-focused First Nation architecture. We work closely with First Nations communities to create architecture that reflects identity, supports wellness, and honors land-based knowledge. Our work spans community centers, cultural buildings, housing, and healing spaces — each designed to express the values, stories, and aspirations of the people they serve.

We believe that meaningful design starts with listening. Our collaborative process ensures that every project is rooted in respect, relevance, and resilience. We integrate Indigenous ways of knowing with contemporary practice to produce architecture that is both enduring and deeply connected to place.

## Philosophy

dk Architecture's goal is to assist First Nations with their cultural revival while providing a built environment that reflects each community's unique identity. dk Architecture's success will be built on trust, developing long term relationships and by successfully completing projects that meets and exceeds the client's goals.

## Design

dk Architecture takes a holistic approach to design. This ensures client concerns are clearly translated into the project, without compromise. dk Architecture's design philosophy is based on critical regionalism. This advocates that architecture should respond to and be cultivated from the unique qualities of its surrounding environment. Materials and the poetics of construction should be amplified by current social and physical context. dk Architecture believes that architecture is the thoughtful gathering of what already exists to reveal the nature of the place.

## Sustainability

All projects impact the environment in many ways. The key is to ensure that any building will complement the environment. dk Architecture's goal is to always design a highly energy efficient, durable building with a low carbon footprint with minimal impact on the environment. This will reduce long term operational costs and will ensure the viability and success of the building.

## People

Dave Kitazaki, **Architect AIBC, LEED AP**



Dave grew up in Kamloops, BC and is a member of the Xaxl'ip (Fountain) First Nation. Dave has 31 years of experience in the architecture industry and is an award-winning architect. Dave has completed a diverse range of successful projects ranging from First Nation Cultural Centres, health centres, water treatment plants, hi-rise residential buildings, pedestrian bridges, and the highest LEED Platinum project in the world.

## First Nation Experience

dk Architecture is working with the following First Nations:

- ʔakinkumʔasnuqʔit (Tobacco Plains), **Grasmere**
- Blueberry River First Nation, **Buick**
- Fort Nelson First Nation, **Fort Nelson**
- Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations, **Port Hardy**
- Haisla Nation Council, **Kitamaat Village**
- Kispiox Band Council, **Kispiox**
- Kwantlen First Nation, **Fort Langley**
- Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation, **Gilford Island**
- Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nation, **Gold River**
- Skeetchestn Indian Band, **Savona**
- Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops IB), **Kamloops**
- Tl'etinqox Government (Anaham), **Alexis Creek**
- Tsi Deldel (Alexis Creek) First Nation, **Redstone**
- Tsilhqot'in National Government, **Williams Lake**
- Ts'uubaa-asatx First Nation, **Lake Cowichan**
- Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government, **Nemiah Valley**
- Yaqan Nuykiy (Lower Kootenay Band), **Creston**
- Yunesit'in Government (Stone), **Hanceville**

Dave worked with the following First Nations with previous architecture firms:

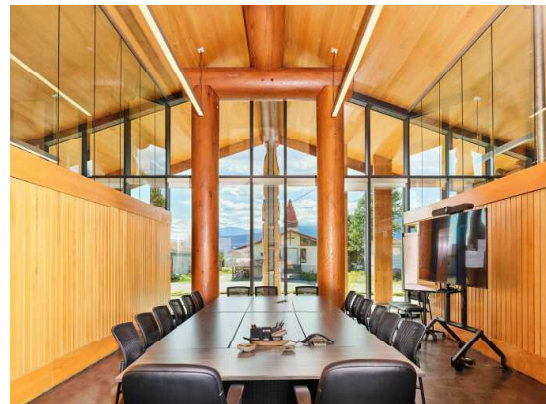
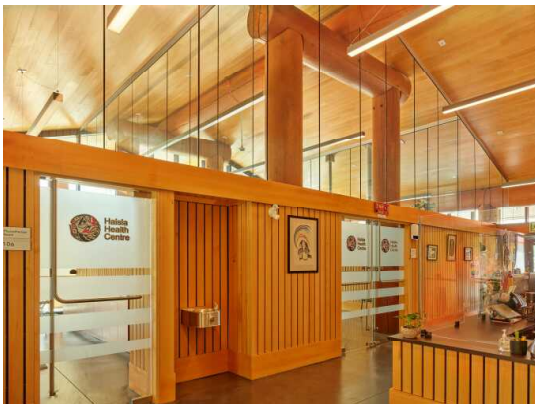
- ʔEsdilagh (Alexandria), **Quesnel**
- Esk'etemc, **Alkali Lake**
- Lil'wat Nation, **Mount Currie**
- Little Shuswap, **Chase**
- Nuxalk Nation, **Bella Coola**
- Stswécem'c Xgat'tem (Canoe Creek), **Dog Creek**
- Squamish Nation, **North Vancouver**
- T'exelc (Sugar Cane), **Williams Lake**
- Tl'esqox (Toosey), **Riske Creek**
- Tsq'escenemc (Canim Lake), **Canim Lake**
- Ulkatcho, **Anahim Lake**
- Xat'súll (Soda Creek), **Williams Lake**

dk Architecture Non-First Nation Project Experience

- Dawson Creek Art Gallery Exterior Deck Renovation, **Dawson Creek**
- Dawson Creek Kin Arena Entrance Canopy, **Dawson Creek**
- FSJ Public Works Building Improvements, **Fort St John**
- FSJ Association for Community Living Feasibility Study, **Fort St John**
- Fort St John Search + Rescue, **Fort St John**
- Kids Arena Field House Renovation, **Fort St John**
- Nicola Valley Fall Fair Washroom, **Merrit**
- North Peace Arena Improvements, **Fort St John**
- Royal British Columbia Museum Collections and Research Building Project – Design Build Submission (\$250 million) RBCM, **Colwood, BC**
- Telus Burnaby House Interior Renovation, **Burnaby**
- Taylor District Ice Centre Addition, **Taylor District**
- University of Fraser Valley Mission Campus Renovation, **Mission**
- Urban Systems (Fort St John) Interior Renovation, **Fort St John**



## HAISLA HEALTH CENTER



Kitimaat Village, BC | Haisla Nation  
\$5.6 million | 767 m<sup>2</sup> (8 250 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2022

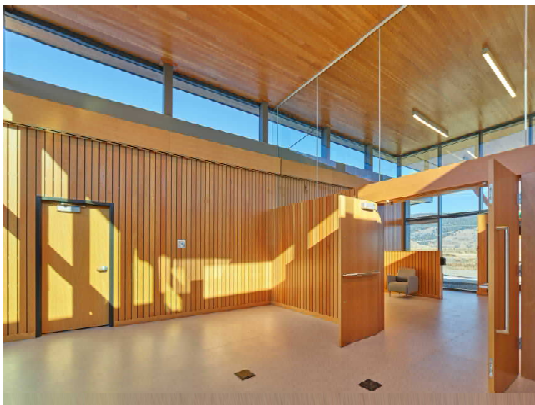
The Haisla Health Center is in Kitimaat Village 45 kilometres south of Terrace.

The building form with a gable roof matches the Haisla's traditional long houses and the buildings width and roof slope allow for a second-floor storage space.

The building is designed for visiting health professionals and includes a large community health room, physiotherapy room, community kitchen, bathing room, two treatment rooms, dental room, and administration offices. The building is arranged into three separated areas: public, treatment and administration.

There are 8 columns in front with the 8 Haisla clans painted on them and a center carving by Sammy Robinson.

## SKEETCHESTN HEALTH CENTER



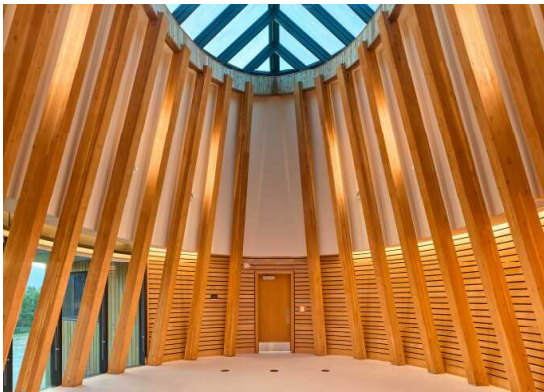
Savona, BC | Skeetchestn Indian Band  
\$3.5 million | 505 m<sup>2</sup> (5 440 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2020

The Skeetchestn Health Center is located along Hwy #1 50 kilometres west of Kamloops, BC. It will be the first building in a new development along Highway 1 near the existing Big Sky Gas Station.

The buildings floor plan is in a U-shape. The health treatment is in one wing and the other wing is for health administration. In between the two wings at the front is the entrance with a community health room.



## YAQAN NUKIY HEALTH + ADMINISTRATION



Creston, BC | Yaqaan Nukiy (Lower Kootenay Band)  
\$5.9 million | 990 m<sup>2</sup> (10 600 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2021

The form of the Yaqaan Nukiy Health + Administration is intended to represent the Kootenai or sturgeon-nosed canoe. The Kootenai canoe and the method of its construction are important to the community.

At the center of the building is a oval shaped meeting room representing the sweat lodge with glulam columns that gradually slope inward supporting an eye shaped skylight.

## ANSPAYAXW HEALTH CENTRE RENOVATION + EXPANSION



Kispiox, BC | Kispiox Band  
\$5.2 million | 874 m<sup>2</sup> (9 414 ft<sup>2</sup>) | In Design

The Anspayaxw Health Centre Renovation + Expansion feasibility study was complete in 2023. The Anspayaxw Health Centre is located 2 hours north east of Terrace, BC. The existing building is 367.3 m<sup>2</sup> (3,950 ft<sup>2</sup>) and will be expanded with an additional space of 507.3 m<sup>2</sup> (5,460 ft<sup>2</sup>).

Construction is to begin in late fall of 2024.

## CHILCOTIN RIVER TRADING



Alexis Creek, BC | Tl'etinqox (Anaham) Government  
\$2.92 million | 316.4 m<sup>2</sup> (3 400 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2021

The Chilcotin River Trading is located in the Cariboo Chilcotin near Alexis Creek | hour west of Williams Lake.

The building consists of a grocery store, café and gas station, commercial card lock and a small RV campground. The grocery store will include fresh produce, baked goods, meats, refrigerated and frozen goods. The café will sell traditional First Nation soups, sandwiches, and bannock developed by Chef Paul Natrall from Mr Bannock and also serving Spirit Bear coffee.

The roof extends at the front of the building creating a covered canopy on the south side of the building which has many purposes: it provides a covered entrance, provides solar shading and creates a covered space for a farmer's market for local farmers.



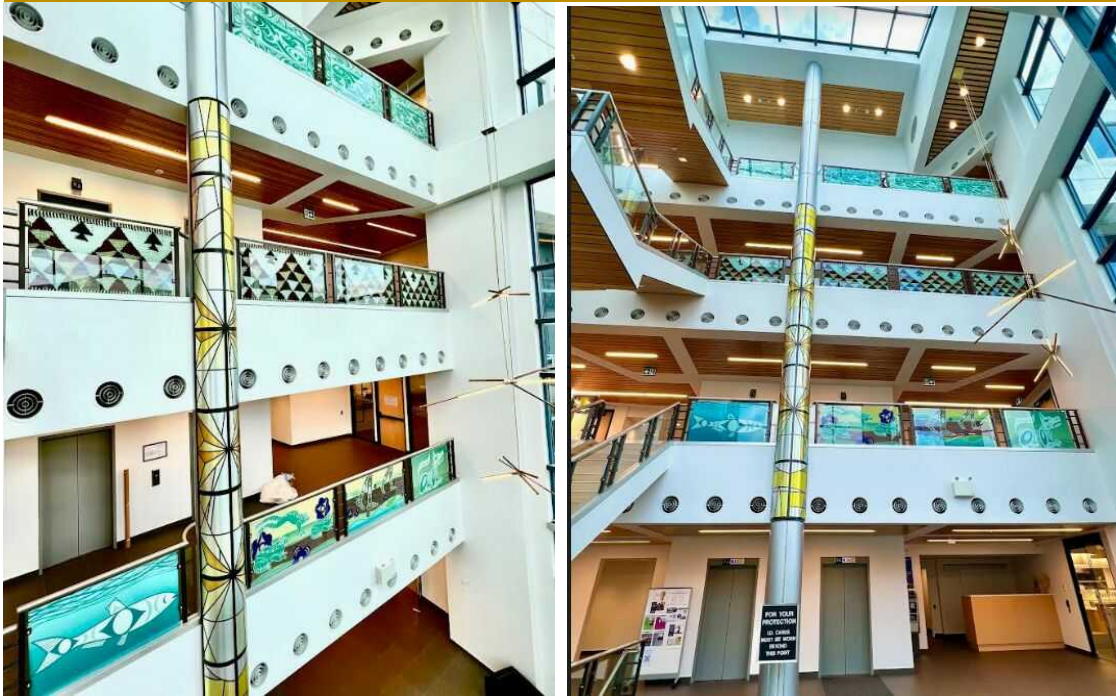
## KWIKWASUT'INUXW HAXWA'MIS HEALTH + ADMIN



Gwayasdums Village, Gilford Island |  
Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis F.N.  
\$2.3 million | 252.0 m<sup>2</sup> (2 710 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completion 2023

Gwayasdums Village is a remote boat access only community on Gilford Island. The village has a rich history, and the new building is located next to the existing Big House on the waterfront. The form and structure of the Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis Health + Administration was derived from the traditional Big Houses in Gwayasdums Village.

## TELUS BURNABY HOUSE INDIGENOUS PLACEMAKING



Burnaby, BC | Telus Corporation Head Office  
Phase I complete

dk Architecture was the First Nation Design consultant for the Telus Burnaby House Indigenous Placemaking Project at 4519 Canada Way. Working with Telus, Gustavson Wylie Architects and Ian Campbell, Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish Nation Hereditary Chief). Themes were developed to honour and recognize the xʷməθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səlilwətəl (Tsleil-Waututh) (MST) land and display the rich history of the place use as a template to incorporate the three local MST First Nations art into their head office building.

The first phase included added First Nation art from local all the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh artists in the main lobby column, railings, and on walls on the main floor by the café/collaboration room.



## T̂SILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

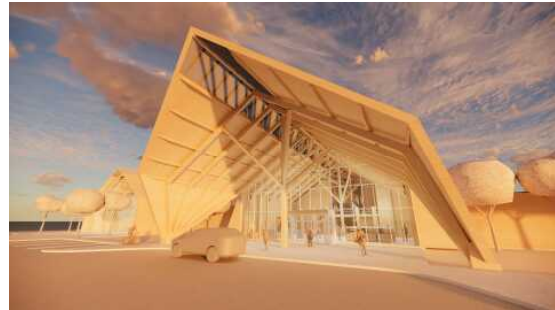


Williams Lake, BC | T̂silhqot'in National Government  
\$1.4 million | 177 m<sup>2</sup> (12 700 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2018

The T̂silhqot'in National Government comprises of the following six First Nations located around Williams Lake: Tl'etinqox (Anaham), Tsi Deldel (Redstone), Yunesit'in Government (Stone), Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government (Nemiah), ?Esdilagh (Alexandria) and Tl'esqox (Toosey).

The TNG purchased the Kwaleen elementary school, closed in 2013, and a portion of it was renovated into offices for the T̂silhqot'in National Government Treaty Negotiations. The second phase will involve upgrading the remaining classrooms and gym for youth and educational programs.

## FORT NELSON FIRST NATION COMMUNITY BUILDING



Fort Nelson, BC | Fort Nelson First Nation  
\$65.1 million | 4,520 m<sup>2</sup> (48,700 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed Feasibility Study

The Fort Nelson First Nation (FNFN) is planning a new Community Building that will proudly showcase their community. The feasibility study was complete in July 2024.

The Community Building will include the following spaces: Community hall with stage, Museum, Art Gallery, Gift Shop, Youth Centre, Commercial kitchen, Cultural classroom, Resource classroom, Resource library and computer room, Elders room, Elders lounge, Elders meeting room, Youth room, outdoor covered recreation space, Multipurpose room that can be used for funerals and Office space.



## YUNESIT'IN BED + BREAKFAST



Stone, BC | Yunesit'in Government  
\$600,000 | 253.2 m<sup>2</sup> (2 725 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2021

Yunesit'in is one of the six communities within the Tsilqot'in Nation. Yunesit'in is located approximately 105 km West of Williams Lake, 8 km South of Hanceville.

The Bed and Breakfast has 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms available for guests, and a full one-bedroom suite attached. It will accommodate primarily staff, consultants, work related contractors associated with Yunesit'in Government, but also begin targeting and attracting a tourism market.

The Yunesit'in Bed & Breakfast was completed in October 2021.

## URBAN SYSTEMS (FORT ST JOHN) RENOVATIONS



Fort St John, BC | Urban Systems  
\$500,000 | 576.7 m<sup>2</sup> (6 200 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2018

The Urban Systems Fort St John's office acquired a small space in their building and expanded into it occupying the entire building.

The existing office had lots of offices and was redesigned with open office spaces. To break up the wide-open office space feel planters, wood screens were addition to create zones. A folding red meeting table was placed in-between two open areas again breaking up the open floor plan.



## UFV MISSION CAMPUS REDEVELOPMENT



Mission, BC | University of Fraser Valley  
\$8.6 million | 1,697 m<sup>2</sup> (18 270 ft<sup>2</sup>) | Completed 2024

dk Architecture was the First Nation Design consultant for the University of Fraser Valley Mission Campus Redevelopment. Working with Thinkspace dk Architecture incorporated local Sto:lo First Nation design elements that responded to the UFV's Project Charter and project objectives.

The revitalization of the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) Mission Campus renovation is now complete, making it the new home for UFV's School of Education, training students in the region to become teachers or early childhood educators.

## AHAMINAQUUS WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT



Gold River, BC | Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nation  
\$2.4 million | 312 m<sup>2</sup> (3 360 ft<sup>2</sup>)

The Ahaminaquus Waterfront Development is located in Northern Vancouver Island along Bute Inlet, at the end of Gold River Highway 28, 100 kms west of Campbell River.

The old Ahaminaquus village site will be developed into a RV campground with a clubhouse located near the Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nation dock. The clubhouse will be a small store with all café gift shop and a cultural room displaying the rich history of the Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nation.

Construction of the Ahaminaquus Waterfront Development is to start in 2023.



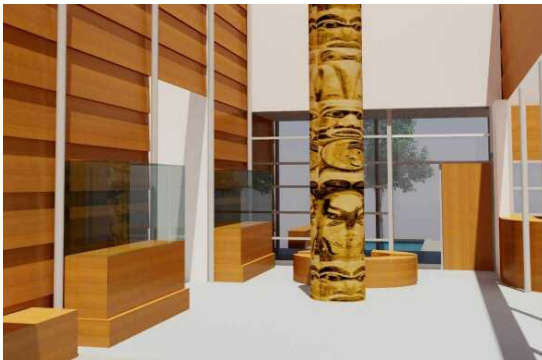
## TS'UUBAA-ASATX CAFE



Lake Cowichan, BC | Lake Cowichan First Nation  
\$3.2 million | 418 m<sup>2</sup> (4 500 ft<sup>2</sup>)

The Ts'uubaa-asatx Café will be a water front café/restaurant on the shores of Lake Cowichan. The Ts'uubaa-asatx Café is a 4-minute walk from downtown Lake Cowichan. The design mimics the traditional cedar plank long house building and will have large cedar planks varying in height from 2'-5'. The seating area will be fully glazed to allow the visitors to enjoy the view of Lake Cowichan. There will also be a 20' carving on the exterior in line with the entrance on the exterior lower level

## TS'UUBAA-ASATX HOUSE OF CULTURE



Lake Cowichan, BC | Lake Cowichan First Nation  
\$3.6 million | 586.7 m<sup>2</sup> (6 315 ft<sup>2</sup>)

The Ts'uubaa-asatx House of Culture will be a community cultural center for the Lake Cowichan First Nation. The Lake Cowichan First Nation is at the edge of the town of Lake Cowichan 30 minutes west of Duncan on Vancouver Island.

The Ts'uubaa-asatx House of Culture will consist of a band office, health center, 2/3 gymnasium with mezzanine and a cultural display at the main entrance.



## SEYEM' COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Maple Ridge, BC | Kwantlen First Nation  
\$2.0 million | 371.6 m<sup>2</sup> (4 000 ft<sup>2</sup>)

The Seyem Commercial Development is the first phase of a large commercial development located along Lougheed Highway in Maple Ridge. The building will be a gas station, convenient store, fast food restaurant and a liquor store.

The design is based on the Kwantlen First Nation's traditional Plank House dwelling structure. The covered gas station island pump structure is wood and will include Kwantlen First Nation Carvings.

## TS'UUAA-ASATX MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT



Lake Cowichan, BC | Lake Cowichan First Nation  
Budget to be determined | Size to be determined

The Ts'uuaa-asatx Mixed-use Development will be a mixture of market residential, independent living and commercial retail units. The amenity spaces include a gym, adult swimming pool, children swimming pool, hot tub, lounge and bbq area.

This development will be located near a health center and a waterfront restaurant, marina, canoe rental.



