

## **Alive and responsive planning: two backgrounds, one message**

Joseph Kahn is the Managing Director of the Kwakiutl Territorial Fisheries Commission. Catherine Rigg is an SFU graduate student in the Department of Geography, and a full-time resident of Haida Gwaii. Kahn has a business degree. Rigg is working on a Ph.D.

The different backgrounds of Kahn and Rigg helped underscore the similarity of their messages on coastal planning. Rigg led off the second morning's session by urging us to ensure that coastal planning be "alive and responsive." Kahn later told guests at the feast that plans are never final. "Plans are not alive if they are sealed," he said. Kahn urged people to avoid forcing such things as aquaculture into the ecosystem if they don't belong. "What happens if we put the pieces of the puzzle in the wrong place?" he asked. Coastal plans must be responsive, consider First Nations rights, and treat people with dignity, according to Kahn. He also challenged academics to elevate their involvement in planning, saying we cannot always blame government managers "who are just doing their jobs."

