

Lexey'em

-to tell a story-

A source of information and discussion for all residents of the Cariboo from the Northern Secwepemc to Qelmu'cw

Tsq'escen'



Canim Lake Band

Stswecem'c / Xgat'tem



Canoe/Dog Creek



Soda/Deep Creek

T'exelc



Williams Lake Band

Lheidli T'enneh Initial a Final Agreement



Read about it on page 4 in the
NStQ treaty section.

Picture taken from www.gov.bc.ca.

Talks Begin on Shared Territories

By Cary Morin
October 30, 2006

The St'at'imc, Tsilhqot'in and Secwepemc leadership met for two days to discuss shared-territory issues among the three nations in what was promoted as a "Unity Meeting." The meetings follow many years and previous attempts to draw clear boundaries and recognize each First Nation's need to be able to approach government and industry with common goals of protecting the land. The meeting came after news of a shared-territory agreement between Esket, Homalco and the Xenigwet'in.

Continued on Next Page...

Photos of the Unity Meeting provided by
Trina Phillips.



Chiefs and Councilors of the St'at'imc, Tsilhqot'in and Secwepemc nations gather at the Esket elementary school.

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society Holds AGM

Read about it on page 6 in the
NStQ treaty section.

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Joint Negotiations Across the Province Begins

October 28, 2006

NANAIMO, B.C. (CP) -

Members of more than 40 First Nations in British Columbia are demanding the federal and provincial governments work harder to resolve negotiations on native issues.

Chiefs, elders and other representatives signed an agreement Saturday, called the Unity Protocol, in an effort to overcome an impasse with treaty negotiations.

Chief Robert Louis of Westbank said if demands aren't met, the issue could lead to further action.

"Does that mean blockading roads, does that mean handing out pamphlets, does that mean blockading of railways," he asked. "I don't know if it will go that far but the issue is strong enough to go that far."

The groups outlined the six key areas they looked to improve on: certainty, constitutional status of treaty lands, governance, co-management throughout traditional territories, fiscal relations, and taxation and fisheries.

Continued on page 3...

NStQ Treaty

Continued from last page...

The first meeting was held outdoors at Churn Creek on September 19th, where Shuswap Chiefs greeted a gathering of Elders and community members from each nation. Barely a word on shared territories was discussed on the first day as the leadership gave way to the Elders and community members of each nation to introduce themselves to one-another and focus on building unity.

The second meeting was held at the Esket elementary school, where the issue of shared-territories became more prominent. Each nation's leaders spoke frankly about their views on what was happening on their territory. They spoke about environmental hazards to salmon, hunting territories being clear-cut without consent and the power of First Nation laws to guide management on their territories. Before lunch was served, Xení Gwet'in Chief Roger William sang a prayer in his native Tsilhqot'in tongue, which impressed those in attendance. After lunch, Chief Fred Robbins called for all leadership to ask their technical people to meet and write a mission statement that would guide shared-territory agreements among the three nations. Afterwards, the meeting closed with drumming by all the leadership.

Each of the three nations are taking different approaches to resolving the land issue in British Columbia. Whereas the Tsilhqot'in and Southern Shuswap are approaching the land issue either through court, direct action and other land-related approaches, the Shuswap of the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council and Esket have largely opted to negotiate in the British Columbia Treaty Process. The Tsilhqot'in have been tasked to resolve the shared-territory issue in their title case, claiming ownership to over a million acres of Nemiah Valley. The Shuswap, through land-use-planning and treaty approaches, need shared territory agreement to deal with decisions made on their territory and off Treaty Settlement Lands.

The problem of shared territories began when officials of the Ministry of Forests asked each nation and their member bands for their boundaries during the early stages of Traditional Use Study research. Thus, several bands and First Nations claimed the same stretches of territory and created uncertainty as to which First Nation needed to be consulted on those shared lands. Without inter-tribal decision-making structures on shared territories, decisions could be made by industry and government without a fuller acceptance by all governments.

The Northern Shuswap Chiefs have been supportive of shared-territory agreements for several years and attended the shared-territory proceedings in Esket. Currently, the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council have no shared-territory agreements, but talks are underway for a shared territory agreement with Lheidli T'enneh negotiator Rick Krehbiel on a portion of the Robson Valley and Bowron Lakes area. Currently, no agreement has been reached.



The community Elders, Youth and Leaders gather at Churn Creek on the first day.



Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William and Esket Chief Fred Robbins sing and drum outdoors at Churn Creek.



The leadership of the St'at'imc, Tsilhqot'in and Secwepemc nations.

NStQ Treaty

There are no apostrophes in the puzzle. For answers that are actually two words long, it will be noted in the clue.

Continued from front page...

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Minister Michael de Jong said the First Nations' sense of frustration is understandable.

"Negotiators have been at this for 15 years," he said. "First Nations leaders and I and the government, in fact, would like us to move more quickly to final agreement.

But, de Jong said, with one agreement signed Saturday and another to be signed Sunday "we are beginning at last . . . to see genuine progress."

On Saturday, the province announced it has signed an agreement in principle with a Fraser Valley First Nation that will set the tone in concluding treaty negotiations.

De Jong said the agreement will allow the In-shuck-ch Nation to develop stronger relationships with local government.

He said it will also foster greater involvement in regional economic development and give the In-shuck-ch more control over managing their communities.

The In-shuck-ch Nation community members approved the agreement in principle in April.

The nation represents 907 members from the Douglas First Nation, Samahquam Nation and Skatin First Nations.

In-shuck-ch have been negotiating with the provincial and federal governments since April 2002.

The agreement sets the foundation for negotiating a final agreement with provisions on land, capital transfer, resources, culture and self-government.

The deal provides for a treaty land offer of 145 square kilometres and a cash offer of \$21 million which will assist in developing economic opportunities in the region, the government said in a news release.

"The Douglas First Nation is just launching a run-of-river power project with our partner Cloudworks. The treaty should allow us greater opportunities for supplying green power," said Chief Darryl Peters of the Douglas First Nation.

Chief Keith Smith of Samahquam Nation said the deal will allow the nation to develop infrastructure most British Columbians take for granted.

"The treaty should allow us to begin to deal with our own problems - isolation, poor roads, no connection to the B.C. Hydro grid, and no landline telephones."

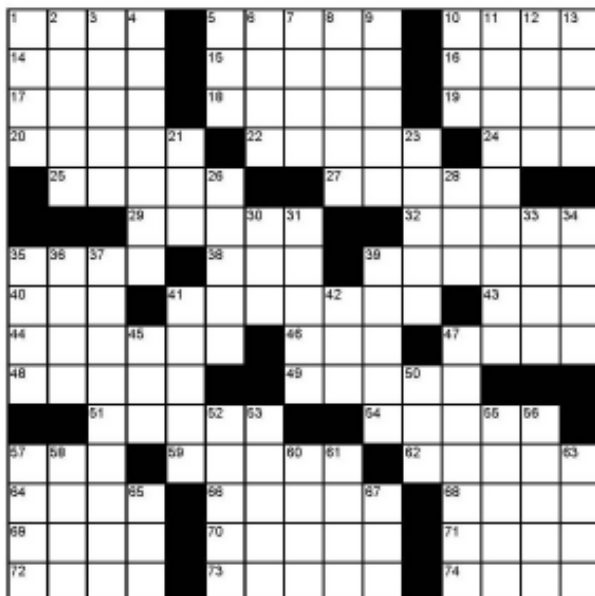
For the Skatin, the deal is a chance to move into the forestry market.

"Forestry will kick-start our economic engine. Independent power production should help it gather momentum, and the service industry should keep it humming," says Chief Patrick Williams.

"We look forward to taking responsibility for ourselves, and not having to wait for other governments," he said.

In Nanaimo, chief negotiator Robert Morales said the government wants natives to give up their rights in return for land.

"Most of us, if not all of us, have now hit the wall on many of the key issues that we are bringing forward," he said.



www.CrosswordHelper.com

ACROSS

- 1 Branch of learning
5 Large, whitish antelope
10 Afloat
14 Swag
15 Waitress on Cheers
16 Dalai ___
17 Dog food brand
18 American indian
19 Make less distinct
20 Gets smaller (with "down")
22 Rive
24 Extra-sensory perception
25 Winter neckwear
27 Fire residue
29 Approximate date
32 Shouts
35 Winnie the ___
38 April (abbr.)
39 German letter topper
40 Gray sea eagle
41 Gout
43 Sober
44 Relating to the laity
46 Imitate

DOWN

- 47 Dick Van ___ Show
48 Drench
49 "That's the last ___!"
51 Knobby
54 Non-hired worker
57 Delivery service
59 Bread leavening
62 Experiment
64 Rice wine
66 Bunch
68 Forward
69 Reel
70 Wrathful
71 Women's magazine
72 Standing
73 Pancake need
74 24 hour periods

- 7 Let fall
8 Birds "thumb"
9 Horizontal line of a graph
10 Loose gown worn at mass
11 Woman store clerk
12 Flightless birds
13 Retired persons association (abbr.)
21 ___ Lanka
23 Herb
26 Infirm
28 Conger
30 Hertz
31 Regions
33 Hide
34 Eye infection
35 Dishonest money
36 Spoken
37 Tear-causing outer coating
39 Drug doers
41 Pop
42 Liable
45 Cry softly
47 Overshadowed
50 Alternative (abbr.)
52 Protection
53 One of the Stooges
55 Stringed instrument
56 Morning
57 Soviet Union
58 Daddy
60 Zoom
61 Ballet skirt
63 Dregs
65 Writing liquid
67 Spiritedness

Answers are on
page 10.

GOVERNMENTS, FIRST NATION INITIAL HISTORIC AGREEMENT

Press Release

Oct. 29, 2006

Office of the Premier
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Lheidli T'enneh Band

PRINCE GEORGE – British Columbia Premier Gordon Campbell, the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, and Lheidli T'enneh Chief Dominic Frederick today witnessed the joint initialling of the first Final Agreement reached under the British Columbia Treaty Process.

“Today we witnessed a significant milestone in the history of reconciliation of First Nations rights and title in British Columbia,” said Campbell. “We are building a new relationship with the Lheidli T'enneh Band, one that will create economic certainty in the region, and provide opportunities, independence and prosperity for generations to come. I commend Chief Frederick and all the negotiators for demonstrating their leadership and commitment to the treaty process.”

“Today’s initialling represents what can be achieved through community leadership and through co-operation among Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities,” said Minister Prentice.

“This treaty will help Canada, British Columbia and Lheidli T'enneh develop a new government-to-government relationship that will benefit local businesses and citizens by clarifying the rights, responsibilities and jurisdictions of each level of government. The treaty package also includes a series of benefits that will enhance Lheidli T'enneh’s economic, social and cultural opportunities.”

The Final Agreement includes self-government provisions and defines Lheidli T'enneh’s rights to resources such as wild-life, fish, timber and sub-surface minerals. The land component of the treaty is 4,330 hectares. The cost of the Final Agreement will be shared by British Columbia and Canada. The capital transfer is \$13.2 million and Lheidli T'enneh will receive resource revenue payments of \$400,000 per year for 50 years.

“The Final Agreement represents a lot of hard work, sacrifice and compromises by all parties,” said Chief Frederick. “The negotiators have taken it to this point, now it is in the hands of the community to accept or reject it. Our community has set a high threshold to accept the Final Agreement. The community wishes will be respected. The community has set the acceptance at 70 per cent.”

Representing more than 300 Carrier people from the Prince George area, Lheidli T'enneh signed an Agreement in Principle in 2003, which provided the framework for negotiating the Final Agreement.

Lheidli T'enneh will now proceed to hold a community vote on the Final Agreement in the coming months. If it ratifies the agreement, British Columbia and Canada must then pass settlement legislation before the agreement can come into effect.

The Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia are also engaged in Final Agreement negotiations with other First Nations: the Maa-nulth First Nations on west central Vancouver Island, Tsawwassen First Nation in the Lower Mainland, Sliammon First Nation on the Sunshine Coast, Yekooche Nation near Fort St. James, and Yale First Nation north of Hope. In addition, over 40 First Nations are currently in the process of negotiating Agreements in Principle with Canada and British Columbia.

Notice of Potential Job Opening at the Northern Shuswap Treaty Society

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society would like to announce that the Public Relations/Communications Coordinator position may be available for a job competition in the near future. The position may pay anywhere between \$29,000 per year to \$36,000 per year depending on experience. If you are interested, please indicate via Letter of Interest to :

Northern Shuswap Treaty Society
17 South 1st Avenue
Williams Lake, BC
V2G 1H4
Attention: Valerie Thiessen, Treaty Advisor.

Should a job competition proceed, you will be contacted based on your Letter of Interest. Please check the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council website for more details on the job description at <http://www.nstq.org/nstc/jobpostings.htm>.



By Jake Archie

NSTS Urban Regional Coordinator for the Fraser Valley and Lower Mainland

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society Signs on with the Joint Chief Negotiators Table

July 6, 2006

On Saturday October 28, 2006, I had the opportunity to attend the Unity Protocol signing ceremony at the Nanaimo First Nation longhouse. Canoe Creek Chief Hank Adam and his wife Nadine came down for the ceremony, as well as Chief Mike Archie and George Pete from Canim Lake. We had solid representation for the Northern Secwepemc te Qelmucw.

The protocol document is designed to help everyone involved overcome impasses that are being met at the negotiation table. Many First Nations are experiencing the same obstacles and have joined together to focus on key issues, such as; certainty, constitutional status of lands, fiscal relations, governance and fish.

The day started with a press conference at 10am, where Chief Robert Louie of the Westbank First Nation spoke strong words regarding the current state of affairs. "Does that mean blockading roads, does that mean handing out pamphlets, does that mean blockading of railways," he asked. "I don't know if it will go that far but the issue is strong enough to go that far." Chief Negotiator forum chair Robert Morales and Summit Task group representative Dave Porter also spoke at the press conference.

After the press conference we proceeded to the longhouse for the document signing. Witnesses that had an Indian name were asked to come forward, the farthest First Nation was invited to start, so Chief Mike Archie stepped forward. Chief Mikes' Indian

name is "Kes Wel" he explained that his name was given to him from elder Joseph A. Archie in a ceremony at Canim Lake. Kes Wel was his step father who was a dispatch rider in WWII. He was also a former Chief of Canim Lake and operated a logging company for Canim Lake. Then the rest of the NStQ representatives were called upon to witnesses, followed by many more people. After all the witnesses were paid a small token amount for their services, the document was signed by 14 First Nations groups representing more than 40 First Nations communities.

When asked about the event Chief Hank Adams stated "Today the signing of the Common Table Protocol is a very important in the progress of our negotiations. Together as nations we will have the ability to change the mandates of governments. We have seen the power of natives dealing with the common issues as in the case of the Forest Range Agreements. We have seen the power to change position of government in that challenge. Also we have seen it in many cases that have gone through the courts. It is very important that we as First Nation people approach issues with a common voice. I feel confident that we will make progress from this point. Kukstecmc."

Chief Mike Archie had this to say: "Approximately 40 First Nations communities work together in the Treaty process to address issues (6 main issues) with B.C. and Canada. It was very nice and very important to

witness this ceremony. This ceremony to First Nations is a form of governance and the way we did things in the community. It defines us as a people and how we are connected."

The event wrapped up with a lunch to a packed room, while several First Nations honoured the ceremony with a song, including NStQ with Chief Hank, Chief Mike and George Pete drumming and singing.

Seen below, Canim Lake Chief Mike Archie, and director of the Northern Shuswap Treaty Society, signs the protocol agreement to enter his band under the Joint Chief Negotiators Table.



Photo provided by Jake Archie.



By Edna Boston
NSTS Lands Coordinator

Land Service Coordinator Update

October 30, 2006

We have been busy working on the land selection. I know this word must be getting old right now, but until everything is said and done I will continue to talk about it.

So far I have given my lands presentation to Canoe Creek Band working group. My presentation was on what land we have left. I think it is a useful presentation because it gets people thinking about what is actually out there in regards to lands.

My presentation starts off with our NStQ traditional territory of 5.6 million hectares, which we will have Aboriginal Right and Title on it and then the following layers are: Parks, Private Land, shared territory with other first nations, Use Recreation and Enjoyment of the Public sites (UREP sites), Forest Recreation sites, etc so after all of these layers take place, it sure don't leave us much land, but when all is said and done we will always remain Secwepemcul'ecw.

Canoe Creek Band will be hosting a working groups unity meeting on November 8, 2006. The main focus of this meeting will be on internal shared territories amongst our own bands. This meeting will be taking place at Dog Creek Gym from 10 – 4pm. This meeting will rotate throughout our 4 communities. After we are done with these meetings we will be making recommendations to the leadership on how the communities are going to work together on shared areas. If you have any questions regarding this meeting please do not hesitate to contact me or Agness Jack.

I have to say a great big THANK YOU to Donna Dixon for her assistance in setting up the meeting. I would also like to say thanks a lot Donna and I am going to miss you. I would like to wish you all the best in where ever life takes you. May our Great Spirit guide you and your family on your new journey.

If you need information about Treaty, please contact your local treaty office. I have listed the numbers below:

- Canoe Creek 1-250-440-5649 Agness Jack
- Canim Lake 1-250-397-2002 Elizabeth Pete
- Sugar Cane 1-250-296-3507 Bernie Elkins
- Soda Creek 1-250-989-2323 Gordon Keener
- Northern Shuswap Treaty Society 1-888-392-7361

Urban Coordinators:

- Jake Archie 1-604-217-0432

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society Holds Annual General Meeting

September 30, 2006

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society (NSTS) held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Canim Lake Gym on September 12th, 13th and 14th. Over 80 people attended the three day event. NSTS staff made presentations on the progress made by the Northern Shuswap Treaty Society on negotiations with Canada and British Columbia. Along with the presentation of the year end audit, those who attended were also presented with the 2004-2005 fiscal year summary of events and the closing Agreement-in-Principle issues that need to be resolved before an Agreement-in-Principle could likely be reached.

In a landmark moment, community

members were given the opportunity to assist the NSTS in making key decisions on mandates that guide the NSTS negotiators. All those who attended on the third day gathered into groups where they discussed ways of overcoming the barriers that have kept the Northern Shuswap Treaty Society from agreeing to proposed offers by government, namely land and cash offers.

The struggles experienced by Northern Secwepemc te Qelmucw in treaty negotiations is nothing new. In the high point of the AGM, former Sto:Lo Chief and acting BCTC Chief Commissioner Steven Point spoke to those in attendance about the long-



Seen above is BCTC Chief Commissioner Steven Point (left) and Texelc Negotiator Bernie Elkins.

time struggles of his generation to fight for aboriginal rights and title. He spoke of a time when there were no band offices and the government still had Department of Indian Affairs offices spread across Canada. He also explained about the struggles of his generation to gain recognition of treaty and aboriginal rights and title into the Constitution Act of 1982 by marching to Ottawa in protest. Steven Point was given a standing ovation following his speech.

NStQ Community

TRADE WITH THE NICOMEN BAND

By Gord Sterritt
October 6, 2006

I would like to extend our thanks to the Nicomen Band for their generosity of allowing fishers from the NStQ to harvest fish in their territory.

As you may be aware over the years it has been increasingly difficult to harvest enough sockeye for your Food, Social and Ceremonial requirements within the NStQ territories. For many of you this season may have been the worst year for getting enough fish to last the winter than can be remembered. The reason? The collapse of the Quesnel Sockeye Run, which resulted in a lot of frustrated people looking for answers.

In an attempt to ease those frustrations, the NSTC Fisheries Department approached the Nicomen Band about fishing in their territory. The Nicomen did not have to think twice and invited the NSTC Fisheries Department to send some fishers from each community to their territory to fish for sockeye for food. (This season is the large cycle year for the Adams Lake sockeye run, which swims past the Nicomen Fishing sites).

With the logistics sorted out, with help from Kristy Palmantier at Sugarcane and DFO organizing the totes, ice and transportation of sockeye to the communities we were away. On the Monday (Sept. 18) 2 fishers from Sugarcane (Chris Wycotte Jr. and Chris Lau Wycotte), 2 fishers from Canoe Creek (Carmen Emile and Darrell Billy), Ron Murphy, the Canoe Creek Community Fisheries Representative and myself (Gord Sterritt) headed to the Nicomen area to start fishing. When we reached Nicomen at approximately 5:30pm we were greeted by Ray Drynock, the Nicomen Resource Manager, and DFO staff. On that first evening fishing began at 6:15pm and the crew finished at around 7:45 pm, during that time (1.5 hours) the crew caught 270 sockeye.

The crew was pretty excited and tired at the same time, some having never seen fishing like that in their lifetime.

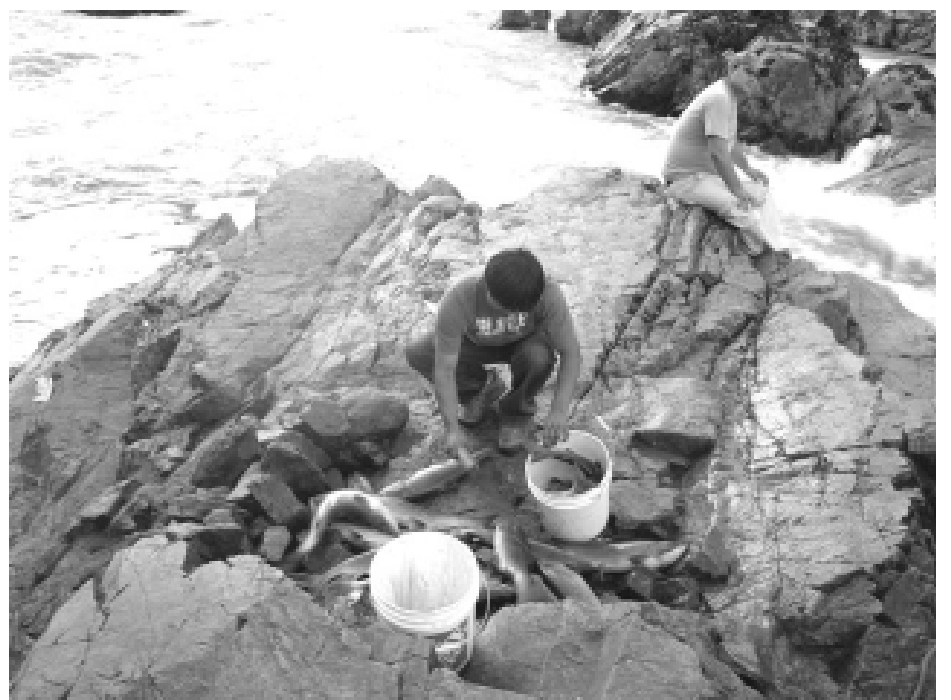
The next day the crew was up early and fishing by 7:30 am. They fished until the truck was full with 685 sockeye and ice and on its way to the Canoe Creek. After the truck left Nicomen the crew continued to fish and fill the totes that remained onsite in order to get ahead for the next shipment. The next day, with the crew getting more efficient and knowing how to pack the totes with ice better, the truck was headed to Sugarcane with 845 sockeye by 3pm. The truck arrived at 7pm and fish were being delivered to the

Continued on next page...



Raymond Sellars, Chris Wycotte Jr, Malcolm Sellars, Ron Murphy, Chris Loe Wycotte, Darrell Billy and Carmen Emile. Crew fishing at Nicomen for the Communities.

Photos provided by Gord Sterritt.



Above: Carmen Emile from Canoe Creek Band and Ray Drynock from Nicomen.

Continued from last page...

community members by 7:15pm. By 9:00pm all of the fish was delivered to 40 families in the community.

This would also be a good time to mention that 2 fishers (Raymond and Malcolm Sellars) from Soda Creek had traveled to Nicomen the previous night to provide much needed manpower to the crew already down there.

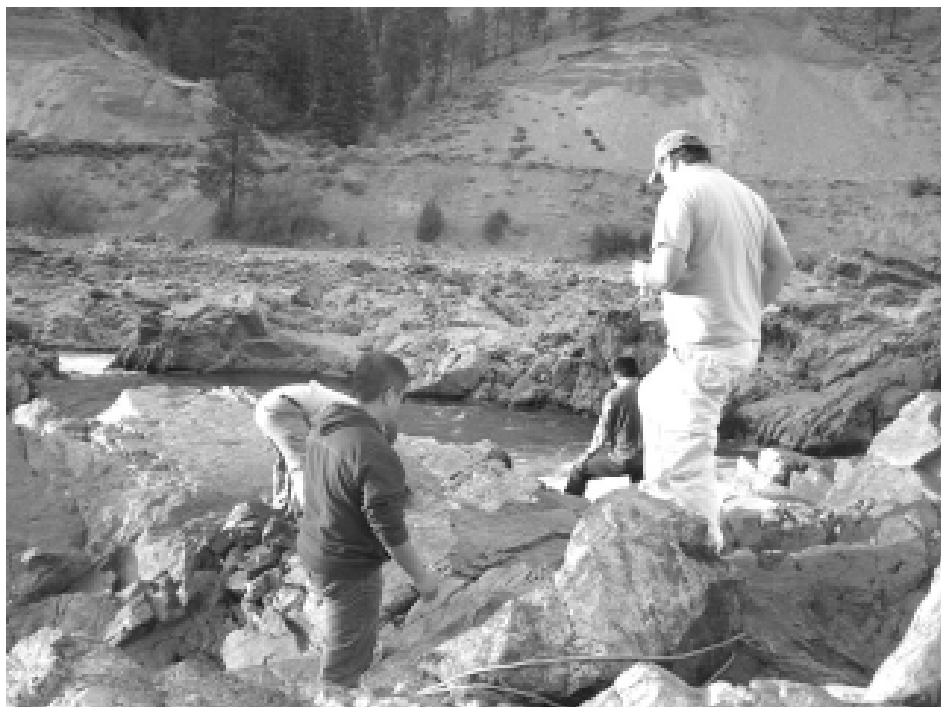
With 7 fishermen now at Nicomen and two communities to go (Soda Creek and Canim Lake) a decision was made to keep those persons already fishing at Nicomen there and not send the additional fishers, who were waiting in Canim Lake, due to lack of room in the cabins that had been rented in Spences Bridge and the vehicle that was being used.

The next delivery of sockeye went to Soda Creek, all together 1025 sockeye were shipped that day, however, approximately 270 were loaded onto Gord's truck to be taken to Dog Creek the next morning. This left approximately 755 sockeye for families from Soda Creek. Again the truck was unloaded by 9pm and headed back to Nicomen for the last delivery to Canim Lake Band Members on Friday.

On Friday a total of 723 sockeye were caught. 600 sockeye were delivered to Canim Lake, a little earlier than anticipated but, thanks to Don Dixon and his wife the fish were off loaded without a hitch. The fishers divided up the remainder of the fish depending on their needs. All together 3290 sockeye were caught in less than 5 days, the crew was very respectful of the Nicomen fishing sites and worked hard to ensure that their communities received some fish for this year. We apologize to those of you who may have missed out on this endeavor.

The Nicomen Band's request for trade in this venture was for tanned hides and moose meat or the opportunity to hunt for moose in the NStQ territories with some of the community members. They have received a moose from the Canoe Creek Band thanks to Larry Emile and his son Carmen and we are currently locating hides to be sent to the Nicomen Band traditional group.

On behalf of the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council and the 4 NStQ communities I would like to thank the following people for their participation in the trade venture with the Nicomen Band: Ron Murphy, Chris Wycotte Jr., Chris Loe Wycotte, Raymond Sellars, Malcolm Sellars, Carmen Amile, Darrell Billy who all ensured that this project continued when their bodies ached and hands couldn't let go of the dip nets and bucket handles from cramping up and Chris Wycotte Sr. who can attest to that, also Kristy Palmantier, Judy Boston, Noella Williams as well as DFO staff who helped transport the fish to the communities. A special thank you goes to the Nicomen Band and Ray Drynock (Nicomen Natural Resources) for their hospitality and generosity of allowing the NStQ fishers to catch food fish on their territory.



Ron Murphy, the Canoe Creek Band Fisheries Representative Dipping at Nicomen.

NSTC CATCH MONITORING 2006

The catch monitoring season is now over and I would like to thank the following persons for their participation in the 2006 NSTC Catch Monitoring Program: Supervisor—Noella Williams, Catch Monitors—Lorna Frank, Fallon William, Sarah Hood, Elizabeth Paul, Yvonne Sellars and Delores Duncan. I would also like to thank the numerous youth who also filled in and worked with the main catch monitors to ensure that the data was collected in the NStQ fishing area for 2006. I hope that the experience will allow you to determine if Natural Resource Management is a career choice that you may want to make. *The information that is collected is used to analyze the season and make informed fisheries management decisions for upcoming seasons.*



By Anne Burrill
NSTC Human Resource
Project Manager

Shaping a government for the future

October 30, 2006

The Human Resources Project staff is working on designing an organizational chart for the post-treaty government. This is important because the NStQ need to plan how their programs and services will be delivered in the future and how many staff will be needed. It is also important to figure out how much it will cost to pay all those staff, so the treaty team can use that information when they are negotiating. **Even if treaty doesn't go ahead, the work we are doing will be important in planning for self-governance in the future.**

It is up to the NStQ to decide how the programs and services should be provided and what staff will be needed. The job of the Human Resources Project is to facilitate a discussion and consultation process. Once we've gathered lots of input, we can put together a draft of what the governance and organizational structure might look like. We'll keep fine tuning it to make sure it reflects the needs of the community members and is an effective and efficient structure in order to do the best job possible and provide the best services for the NStQ people. Some of the things we're taking into consideration as we design the new structure are:

- Cultural fit – that it is consistent with NStQ values;
- Efficient and Effective – that it makes the best use of resources while providing good services and that it minimizes overlaps and gaps in authority;
- Best interest of NStQ – that it provides equal access for all NStQ people, both on and off the territory.

In addition to talking to community members and staff about their vision of the new government structure, we're also trying to learn from what's already being done and from other First Nations. We've been asking people what is working now and how we can improve on what already exists. I have also been gathering information about how other First Nations have or are in the process of restructuring their governance and organizational structure. We don't need to reinvent the wheel. We do need to take the best of what exists and build on it.

The main messages that I hear from everyone I talk to are that community members should have a real role in decisions making and planning and that power to make decisions needs to be shared. I also hear often about the importance of NStQ culture and traditional approaches to governance, so we need to design a struc-

ture that establishes a strong functional responsibility for preserving the history, language and traditions of the NStQ. We also need to consider designing the structure to reflect historical and traditional approaches to governance. We don't want to recreate the existing system on a larger scale. We do want to build on what's working make changes to improve effectiveness and efficiency for the future.

Talking about a government structure with people makes the future of self-governance feel very real for some people. This is both exciting and a bit scary since it represents the realities of tremendous

changes that will affect people's lives in a whole variety of ways. It is important that we acknowledge the significance of the change and address people's concern throughout this process. And it is a process! A process that is happening too fast for some, too slow for others. The most important thing is to participate in the process. You are part of shaping the future of NStQ self-governance for the next generations.

If you have any questions, or would like more information please contact the Project Manager, Anne Burrill at the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council office.

Take a step back in history and visit our traditional native village nestled along the shores of the majestic Fraser River. You may catch a glimpse of someone dip-netting for salmon, or see some wildlife frolicking in our area.

Try our extended stay program and stay in the pit house or one of our teepees overlooking the Fraser Canyon. We offer sweats, drum making, arts and crafts, pit cook demonstrations, drumming, singing, and much, much more. Please call ahead for reservations.



3405 Mountain House Rd., Williams Lake, BC V2G 5L5
Tel: (250) 989-2323 Fax: (250) 989-2300 On-site: (250) 297-6502
r.shackelly@xatsull.com

BOOKING TOURS FOR 2007, PLEASE CALL AND MAKE RESERVATIONS

Solution:



Employment Opportunity

Urban Regional Coordinator (BC Interior)

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society is currently seeking an individual to fill the position of Urban Regional Coordinator for the Interior of British Columbia. This full time position will be responsible for working with the Northern Secwepemc te Qelmuwc Treaty Team in representing the interests of the off-reserve members from Canoe/Dog Creek, Soda/Deep Creek, Canim Lake and Williams Lake Bands.

Job Requirements:

Education

- Grade 12 certification or equivalent
- Post-secondary training in the area of communication, administration or treaty topics would be an asset.

Skills and Abilities

- Please see posting about skills and abilities at band office or www.nstq.org/nstc.htm.

Expectations

- Member of one of the four communities that comprise the Northern Shuswap Treaty Society
- Resident of the Williams Lake area
- 32.50 work week
- \$15.00 per hour
- Regular office hours would be 5 days/week for 6.5 hours per day
- Ability to work flexible hours (evening working group meetings 1 – 4 times/month)
- To attend various NSTS meetings for up to date information on negotiations and strategy.

Other Requirements

- Must possess a valid BC Driver's License
- Must have own insured reliable vehicle
- Must have the ability to travel as needed around the Province.

For a full job description visit the NStQ Website at www.nstq.org/nstc/jobpostings.htm
Submit resume, with 3 references and written cover letter by **4:30 pm Tuesday, November 14, 2006** to:

Valerie Thiessen
17 S. 1st Ave
Williams Lake, BC V2G 1H7
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Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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-to tell a story-



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The Lexey'em means "to tell a story" in Shuswap. The Lexey'em newspaper is the community news source of the Northern Shuswap. We publish six editions per year on the following months (January, March, May, July, September and November) and is available on-line. It is distributed to Shuswap households in the Williams Lake and 100 Mile House and is delivered to many other Shuswap bands across the Interior of British Columbia. Also, as part of the Treaty Advisory Committee consultation process, it is distributed to regional government officials and the larger Williams Lake Region. That means it is read at dental and medical facilities, tourist sites, information collection sites and other First Nation communities around the province, free of charge.

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Grand Council Chief proposes Matrimonial Rights and Equity Law

NIPISSING FIRST NATION

September 29, 2006

The Anishinabek Nation leadership out of Ontario is developing its own law to deal with the complex issue of division of matrimonial property.

Because the Indian Act prohibits non-status spouses from owning property on-reserve, or non-band members in some cases, often when these “mixed marriages” dissolve the non-status spouse is unable to obtain equity from the matrimonial home and other material assets.

“Our women have been very clear about this. This is about status and citizenship. Our First Nations have the right to define who our citizens are and provide our own solutions in this area,” said Grand Council Chief John Beaucage.

“In all cases, the children will always be the priority, and in most cases, non-status spouses would be considered citizens and be subject to Anishinabek Nation law and citizenship codes.”

Grand Council Chief Beaucage proposed the development of the Anishinabek Matrimonial Rights and Equity Law following discussions with members of the Anishinabek Nation and Assembly of First Nations Women’s Councils, Union of Ontario Indian women Chiefs, and Wendy Grant-John – Special Representative on Matrimonial Real Property to the Hon. Jim Prentice, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Beaucage said the Minister already has an agenda to impose legislation on First Nations this spring, following a consultation process to be launched this fall. He said the Union of Ontario Indians is concerned that the consultations will be woefully inadequate, given the potential consequences of INAC’s proposed legislation and ramifications of recent Supreme Court decisions.

“This government, when it sat in opposition, used scare tactics and worst-cased scenarios to bring attention to this issue,” he recalled. “Their proposed legislation will likely be focused on land tenure and apply Provincial provisions respecting divorce and family law. This approach unfairly pits the rights of women and children against the rights and jurisdiction of their First Nations.”

Under Beaucage’s proposal, the Anishinabek Matrimonial Rights and Equity Law could be ratified under a Self-Government Agreement that the Union of Ontario Indians has been negotiating with Canada since 1998, and which is nearing the Agreement-in-Principle stage.

“Equity and fairness will be at the heart of our Anishinabek Nation law, rather than a focus simply on land transactions,” he added. “Land will always be held in trust by the First Nations government. No matter what happens, our land will be inalienable in perpetuity. Our reserve lands will never be lost to any type of legal process, including this legislation.”

The Anishinabek Nation incorporated the Union of Ontario Indians as its secretariat in 1949. The UOI is a political advocate for 42 member First Nations across Ontario. The UOI is the oldest political organization in Ontario and can trace its roots back to the Confederacy of Three Fires, which existed long before European contact.

Community Achievers



The Lexey'em is brought to you by the Northern Shuswap Treaty Society and The Williams Lake Tribune.

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The Lexey'em is a community newspaper. We accept your submissions. Be the voice of the community.



Best Wishes and Good Luck to Donna Dixon

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society would like to announce that Donna Dixon has resigned as the Urban Regional Coordinator for the Interior. We would like to wish her good luck in all her future endeavours. She will be missed and her hard work, and dedication to treaty as an administrator for Deep Creek Treaty and as an Urban Regional Coordinator for the Northern Shuswap Treaty Society will not be forgotten.



The Northern Shuswap Tribal Council and Treaty Society would like to congratulate Rebecca Rosette (above-left) and Ashley Camille (above-right) for winning the gold medal in girls soccer at the North American Indigenous Games in Denver, Colorado.

They played Alberta, Manitoba, North West Territories and went undefeated. They played North West Territories for the gold and won 4 to 2.

Also, Rebecca and Ashley would like to thank all of the people who sponsored them and donated to their bingos that helped them get to Denver.

News and photos submitted by Phyllis Rosette.

The Northern Shuswap Treaty Society (NSTS)

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