Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Between the

City of Williams Lake

And the

Xats’ull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band)

Whereas the City of Williams Lake and the Xats’ull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band) have a common interest in cooperative intergovernmental relationships; and

Whereas the City of Williams Lake and the Xats’ull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band) also believe that cooperative working relationship between local governments and First Nations are built;

Therefore this Memorandum of Understanding represents a commitment by the City of Williams Lake and the Xats’ull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band) to promote cooperative relationship building.

Both Parties agree on the following:

Principles:

The City of Williams Lake and the Xats’ull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band) will recognize the following principles in dealing with one another:

- Mutual respect for each Party’s mandates and policies and that this Memorandum of Understanding does not fetter the individual mandates and policies of the parties;
- Mutual respect for respective areas of jurisdiction as defined in current and future Local Governments and First Nation Government areas of authority;
- That the Xats’ull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band) has occupied the area North of the Williams Lake River Valley for thousands of years;
- Cooperation in the exchange, development and distribution of information that is relevant to the establishment and consolidation of the relationship between the parties;
- Collaborative actions in the development and implementation of projects of mutual interest; and
- Acknowledgment that good relations between neighbors are required for all citizens to benefit.

**General Objectives:**
The Xats'ull First Nation (Soda Creek Indian Band) and the City of Williams Lake has the following mutual objectives:

- Promote understanding of functions, responsibilities and interests of both parties, both of a local and regional nature in a province-wide context, including participation in each other’s events whenever possible;
- Provide opportunities for relationship building between the parties, such as through annual Community to Community Forums, which allow dialogue between community leaders on areas of common interest. This includes, but not limited, to economic development, education, natural resource management, efficient and affordable service delivery, and cooperative land use planning whenever possible; and
- Encourage and promote effective methods of dispute resolution between the parties.

Signed this 14th day of July, 2005, by:

Chief and Council
Xats'ull First Nation

Mayor and Council
City of Williams Lake