
DISTRICT OF HUDSON'S HOPE

**REPORT TO: DIRECTOR TERRY RAYMOND
CHAIR, FIRST NATION RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

DATE: APRIL 11, 2006

**FROM: CAROLYN BONNICK
DEPUTY CLERK**

**SUBJECT: REGIONAL COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM HELD MARCH 21,
2006**

FORUM OBJECTIVES

The intent of the forum was to take a step towards building better communications between the West Moberly First Nation, Saulteau First Nation, Halfway River First Nation, the Peace River Regional District and the District of Hudson's Hope. A secondary objective was to provide an opportunity to discuss future joint plans for the area and discuss new development and activities.

The meeting can definitely be considered successful as it surpassed our expectations although representatives from the Halfway River First Nation were not in attendance. During the social time and throughout dinner, everyone mingled, shared stories and exchanged ideas with members of other communities.

Although each organization had contributed items to the agenda, once discussion began on the first item, it was clear that jumping into discussion about problems and how to solve them was extremely premature. The facilitator, Wayne Plenert, was quick to recognize this and encouraged each group to make a brief presentation about themselves, how their government worked and what was important to them.

PARTICIPANTS

West Moberly First Nation:
Chief Roland Willson
Councillor Kori Dokkie
Councillor Brandi Scott
Councillor Clarence Willson

District of Hudson's Hope
Mayor Lenore Harwood
Councillor Derrek Beam
Councillor Gwen Johansson
Councillor Sam Kosolowsky
Councillor Terry Webster
Bill Lindsay, Administrator
Carolyn Bonnicks, Deputy Clerk

Saulteau First Nation
Councillor Brenda Coutoreille
Councillor Linda Watson

Halfway River First Nation
No Representatives were present

*Please see Appendix "B"
for a complete list of attendees.

ISSUES DISCUSSED

The meeting began with a round of introductions of the 18 participants. Most people included information about how long they had lived in the area, their areas of interest, and what was important to them in their community. Some also included their expectations for the meeting which clearly identified improved communication as the main goal.

Following the introductions, a presentation was made by the representative from the North East Native Advancing Association identifying areas of concern surrounding the sharing of information and issues that would need to be addressed (ie. trust between the communities) in order for the governments involved to form a tourism partnership.

It was at this point in the meeting that one of the participants stated that he felt much of this discussion was premature and that the relationships between the communities needed to be developed and enhanced before issues such as trust could be discussed. The facilitator agreed and asked the group if the remainder of the time was best spent hearing about the communities rather than continuing with the agenda. All were in agreement.

Chief Willson from West Moberly First Nation advised that he had brought copies of their community profile to distribute to the attendees which explained how their government was structured and information about some of their past and current projects. This information was very well received by all.

The Facilitator then asked a representative from Sauleau First Nation and from the District of Hudson's Hope to make a brief summary of their governments and provided an opportunity for individuals to ask questions.

RECOMMENDATIONS/OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the meeting, all agreed that the meeting had been successful and helpful. There were no specific recommendations made at this first meeting as there was very little discussion surrounding the agenda items. Another meeting has been tentatively scheduled for the end of April, 2006. It is the intent of the group to discuss the issues on the March 21 agenda at that time.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Item	Actual Cost
Dinner for participants	\$450.00
Beverages for participants	\$200.00
Facilitation Services	\$676.88
Preparation of materials, information packages and displays	\$300.00
Final Report Production	\$300.00
Total Expenses:	\$1926.88

In kind contributions:

Staff time to organize conference and prepare minutes: 15 hours at \$30/hour \$450.00

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – Agenda

Appendix B – Complete List of Attendees

Appendix C – Final Report for Circulation to Attendees

Appendix D – Information included in an article in the North East News and a Public Service
Announcement sent to all residents on the local internet service.

Report prepared by:

Carolyn Bonnick, Deputy Clerk

Appendix A – Agenda

FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006
HUDSON'S HOPE COMMUNITY HALL
AGENDA

SCHEDULE

5:00 PM SOCIAL
5:30 PM DINNER
7:00 PM MEETING

AGENDA

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES BETWEEN COMMUNITIES
 2. WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS
 3. LAND USE REFERRALS
 4. TREATY LAND ENTITLEMENT
 5. PEACE MOBERLY TRACT
 6. MINING
 7. SITE C
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LIST OF ATTENDEES

Saulteau First Nations

Chief Alan Apsassin
Brenda Courtoreille
Marian Kristoffy
Linda Watson

Halfway River First Nations

Unconfirmed at time of printing

North Peace EDC

Tammy Danshin (Tentative)

District of Hudson's Hope

Mayor Lenore Harwood
Derrek Beam
Gwen Johansson
Terry Webster
Bill Lindsay
Carolyn Bonnick

West Moberly First Nations

Chief Roland Willson
Kori Dokkie
Brandi Scott
Harley Brown
Clarence Willson
Will Sandobal (Tentative)

North East Native Advancing Association

Sennen Charleson

Hudson's Hope Business Association

Bonnie Edgar

Peace River Regional District

Karen Gooding, Director – Electoral Area B
Tim Caton, Director – Electoral Area E

Facilitator

Wayne Plenert, Peacebuilder Mediation

Appendix B – Complete List of Attendees

West Moberly First Nation:

Chief Roland Willson
Councillor Kori Dokkie
Councillor Brandi Scott
Councillor Clarence Willson

District of Hudson's Hope

Mayor Lenore Harwood
Councillor Derrek Beam
Councillor Gwen Johansson
Councillor Sam Kosolowsky
Councillor Terry Webster
Bill Lindsay, Administrator
Carolyn Bonnicks, Deputy Clerk

Facilitator

Wayne Plenert, Peacebuilder Mediation

Saulteau First Nation

Councillor Brenda Coutoreille
Councillor Linda Watson
Mr. Les Haggard (Guest)

Halfway River First Nation

No Representatives were present

Hudson's Hope Business Association

Bonnie Edgar
Darryl Johnson

North East Native Advancing Association

Sennen Charleson

Peace River Regional District

Tim Caton, Director – Electoral Area "E"

**APPENDIX C –
FINAL REPORT FOR CIRCULATION TO ATTENDEES**

**REGIONAL
COMMUNITY TO
COMMUNITY
FORUM**
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006

**STRENGTHENING THE
RELATIONSHIP**



FORUM REPORT

WEST MOBERLY FIRST NATION

PARTICIPANTS

West Moberly First Nation:

Chief Roland Willson
Councillor Kori Dokkie
Councillor Brandi Scott
Councillor Clarence Willson

District of Hudson's Hope

Mayor Lenore Harwood
Councillor Derrek Beam
Councillor Gwen Johansson
Councillor Sam Kosolowsky
Councillor Terry Webster
Bill Lindsay, Administrator
Carolyn Bonnicks, Deputy Clerk

Saulteau First Nation

Councillor Brenda Coutoreille
Councillor Linda Watson
Mr. Les Haggard (Guest)

Peace River Regional District

Tim Caton, Director – Electoral Area “E”

Hudson's Hope Business Association

Bonnie Edgar
Darryl Johnson

North East Native Advancing Association

Sennen Charleson

Facilitator

Wayne Plenert, Peacebuilder Mediation

BACKGROUND

The intent of the forum was to bring together First Nation and local government community leaders from around the Hudson's Hope area to discuss common goals and opportunities for joint action. First and foremost, the forum provided an opportunity to begin strengthening the relationships between the West Moberly First Nation, Saulteau First Nation, and the District of Hudson's Hope and opening the lines of communication between the communities.

INTRODUCTIONS

During the social and dinner hours, communication was evident between the communities as everyone seemed to be sharing stories and ideas with others present at the meeting.

The official meeting began with a round of introductions from the 19 participants. Most people included information about how long they had lived in the area, their areas of interest, and what was important to them in their community. Some also included their expectations for the meeting which clearly identified improved communication as the main goal.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES BETWEEN COMMUNITIES

Mr. Charleson began the discussion surrounding joint tourism opportunities by identifying the need for a framework that would provide First Nations and Local Governments with a way to combine their assets and help promote tourism in the area.

Two issues that could be addressed through a marketing campaign would be increasing the number tourists through the area and increasing the number of dollars each tourist spends in the area.

As Aboriginal people only have bits and pieces of their history, he is hopeful that spaces will be provided for Aboriginal families to rediscover their history and be able to determine which stories and trails will be shared with others through tourism. For this information sharing to occur, however, there must be safeguards in place as there have been instances in the past where stories have been shared and then retold for profit by a non-Aboriginal person.

West Moberly First Nation, Sauleau First Nation and the District of Hudson's Hope share a common interest as they all want people to travel Highway 29 between Chetwynd and Fort St. John.

Councillor Webster noted that there is an absence of First Nations history in the Hudson Hope Museum and in the Hudson Hope School. Information sharing should be encouraged between the communities.

Councillor Scott identified the value of sharing history and information about Treaty 8 to help clarify the myths and misconceptions about entitlement. There is "intellectual property rights" legislation in place to protect the stories of Aboriginal people.

Mr. Johnson felt the Alaska Highway Initiative Byway should be an area of focus for tourism beginning with a history of First Nations, an early settlement history of Europeans and a modern history surrounding the dams and industrialization.

Chief Willson discussed the importance of balancing the number/amount of resources taken from and brought into area in quantities that will preserve the area while satisfying the effected communities.

Councillor Kosolowsky stated that he felt much of this discussion was premature and that the relationships between the communities needed to be developed and enhanced before issues such as trust could be discussed.

There was group consensus that the remainder of the first meeting was best spent sharing information and learning about the different communities involved in the forum.

Chief Willson distributed copies of the West Moberly First Nation community profile which explained how their government was structured and information about some of their past and current projects. This information was very well received by all.

Councillors Courtoreille and Watson made a brief presentation about Sauleau First Nation and Mr. Lindsay provided a history of the District of Hudson's Hope. The floor was then opened up for questions about the communities.

SUMMARY

At the conclusion of the meeting, all agreed that the meeting had been successful and helpful. There were no specific recommendations made at this first meeting as there was very little

discussion surrounding the agenda items. Another meeting has been tentatively scheduled for the end of April, 2006. It is the intent of the group to discuss the issues on the March 21 agenda at that time.

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A – Agenda

APPENDIX D – MEDIA AND COVERAGE

Members of Council from the District of Hudson's Hope and band members from the West Moberly Band and the Saulneau First Nations held their first Community to Community Forum in Hudson's Hope on March 21st. Nineteen people were in attendance. The evening began with appetizers and dinner and lots of mingling. After dinner a meeting was held to discuss some of our common concerns and issues. The meeting was facilitated by Wayne Plenert of Peacebuilder Mediation. A number of items had been forwarded for the agenda but most of the evening was spent getting to know each other better. Both the Saulneau and West Moberly Bands spoke about what programs they offered and some of the initiatives that they were undertaking. The District of Hudson's Hope also presented some of their initiatives and challenges. Chief Roland Willson from the West Moberly Band brought along maps that had been developed showing areas of historical and cultural significance, and also a community profile of the West Moberly First Nations. All in all, the evening was a great success and definitely the first step to building a relationship. Everyone was so enthused that they were quick to respond to holding another forum at the Saulneau Reserve next month.