

SUMMARY REPORT

COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUMS 2003

Between the

GITANMAAX BAND AND VILLAGE OF HAZELTON COUNCIL

OBJECTIVES:

- Build a stronger working relationship between the Village of Hazelton Council and Gitanmaax Band Council to deal with common concerns and opportunities
- Maintain and build on the working relationship that exists for service delivery
- Identify economic development opportunities of mutual interest
- Develop a supportive relationship to lobby together on issues of mutual interest

On April 8, 2003 we held our **first** 2003 Community to Community Forum meeting. The meeting agenda was full with several projects up for discussion. Highlights from the meeting:

- Both Councils agreed to combine financial resources to hire the services of an animal control officer on a trial basis
- Councils together discussed the need for support of a walking path which would provide a benefit to everyone in our communities to ensure a safe alternative to walking along the highway and that consent would be required to cross private property, reserve land and public land.
- Councils discussed opportunities for partnering together with respect to tourism development and ways to complement each other's present efforts
- Councils agreed to co-sponsor a recognition evening for the Hazelton and Gitanmaax Volunteer Fire Departments which share the same volunteer base of firefighters

A **second** Community to Community Forum meeting was held on November 19, 2003. Several meeting dates had been arranged prior to this date but

because of unfortunate circumstances had to be cancelled. The meeting agendas also changed over the course of preparing for the second meeting.

This particular meeting focused primarily on the Gitanmaax /Hazelton Water Supply, Treatment, Storage and Distribution – Engineers Report from Dayton and Knight.

- The Engineers provided an overview of the results of their investigation of the current deficiencies and recommendations for the upgrading of the water treatment plant and reviewed the adequacy of the existing distribution system and reservoir to meet present and future demands.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

Invitations extended from the Mayor and Council of the Village of Hazelton and the Administrative Staff for the Village of Hazelton to the Chief Councillor and Council of the Gitanmaax Band and the Administrative Staff for the Band Council.

April 8, 2003 Meeting:

Village of Hazelton Attendees:

Alice Maitland – Mayor
Shirley Muldon – Councillor
Nick Marshall – Councillor
Doug Donaldson – Councillor

Helen Koning – Administrator for the Village of Hazelton

Gitanmaax Band Council Attendees:

Victor Robinson – Chief Councillor
Bridie O’Brien – Councillor

Jessica Mikolayczyk-Band Manager

November 19, 2003 Meeting:

Village of Hazelton

Attendees:

Alice Maitland – Mayor
Shirley Muldon – Councillor
Nick Marshall – Councillor

Helen Koning – Administrator for the Village of Hazelton

Gitanmaax Band Council

Attendees:

Bridie O’Brien – Councillor
William Mowatt – Councillor
Angela Tait - Councillor

Jessica Mikolayczyk-Band Manager
Tony Seibert – Engineer, Gitksan Government Commission

Dayton and Knight Ltd Consulting Engineers

Attendees:

Sean Brophy - Executive Vice-President
Gerson Neiva –Project Engineer

SUMMARY OF THE ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Working together to identify day to day activities and combining limited resources to address issues of mutual concern (e.g. animal control, fire protection services)
- Continued discussion on potential economic development initiatives specific to tourism opportunities (e.g. expanding and complementing existing tourism projects, including the walking path)
- Identifying future infrastructure projects such as the need to expand our present water supply, treatment, storage and distribution system

RECOMMENDATIONS/ACHIEVEMENTS/PLANS FOR THE NEXT STEPS:

- Continue to meet throughout the coming year to move forward and monitor the progress of the items identified and discussed over the past several community to community forums.

At the last Village of Hazelton Council meeting on December 16, 2003 a decision was made to start early in the new year to arrange for another joint meeting with the Gitanmaax Band Council and the Village of Hazelton Council to continue working on the projects presently identified that have mutual benefits.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

Administration and Preparation for the Meeting	\$200.00
Invitations, Postage...	\$ 35.00
Dinners (2)	\$200.00
Gitanmaax Band Council Contribution (Hall, Food...)	\$465.00
Post meeting follow up minutes	\$250.00
Final report submission	<u>\$250.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$1400.00</u>

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

April 8, 2003 Agenda
November 19, 2003 Agenda

COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM

Gitanmaax Band and Village of Hazelton

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday April 8, 2003

7:00 p.m.

- 1. Dog Control Project**
- 2. Walking Path**
- 3. Tourism – tourist information centre**
- 4. Boat launch facility on the Skeena River**
- 5. Flood Control**
- 6. Field at the First Nations High School**
- 7. Review of the Sewer and Water Agreements and payment systems**
- 8. Fire Protection**
- 9. Sewer and Water**

COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM

Gitanmaax Band Council and Village of Hazelton Council

Meeting Agenda (Revised)

Wednesday November 19, 2003

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Gitanmaax/Hazelton Water Supply, Treatment, Storage and Distribution – Engineers Report from Dayton and Knight**
 - Investigation of the current deficiencies and recommendations for the upgrading of the water treatment plant and reviews the adequacy of the existing distribution system and reservoir to meet present and future demands.
- 2. Flood Control / Dike Work**
 - The Village has completed most of its dike work along the Skeena River and will be focusing on maintenance and rehabilitation areas. The Ministry of Water, Lands and Air Protection staff have suggested that the remaining dike work on the reserve land is necessary to avoid flood waters from wrapping around the end of the present dike and back into the lower property areas of the Village.
- 3. Walking Path**
 - See attached letter sent to the Band Council – The Village of Hazelton is looking for a resolution from the Gitanmaax Band to support the Walking path between the Village of Hazelton and New Hazelton through Reserve land.
- 4. Boat launch facility on the Skeena River**
 - The Village is inquiring about the progress of the proposed boat launch facility below the Sewage Pump station of around the 'Ksan Campground area.
- 5. Skate Board park**
 - Gitanmaax Band Council agenda item
- 6. Fire Department – proposed amalgamation study**
 - Gitanmaax Band Council agenda item