



# COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM Village of Hazelton and the Gitanmaax Band

## 2005 Final Report

### 1. Forum Objective

To hold joint meetings between the Councils of the two communities to review current agreements and to specifically develop memorandums of understanding on how the revised agreement will be administered in the best interest of the Gitanmaax First Nations and the Village of Hazelton.

### 2. Participants

#### **Gitanmaax First Nation**

Dorothy Lattie, Councillor  
Willie Mowatt, Councillor  
Veronica Green, Councillor  
Gwen Adams, Councillor  
Bridie O'Brien, Executive Director

#### **Village of Hazelton**

Alice Maitland, Mayor  
Shirley Muldon, Councillor  
Nick Marshall, Councillor  
Dave Ryan, Councillor  
Helen Koning, Chief Administrative Officer

### 3. Summary of Issues discussed and/or presentations made at the event (Agenda attached as Appendices "A" Minutes attached as Appendices "B").

The meeting once again provided an opportunity to build a relationship between the two communities and to discuss the success and progress of a number of projects mutually identified on which to jointly work.

Highlights of some of the topics discussed:

**Walking Path:** General discussion on how lighting of the path is important and needs to be addressed and what steps may be taken to explore this project further. In addition, the groups discussed the general maintenance of the trail. The Administrative Staff of each Council were charged with further exploration work on these issues.

**Joint Water and Sewer Works:** The specific project of the Service Agreement for the joint water and sewer works was discussed. The Councils agreed to the rehiring of Mr. David Morris of SUDA Management to assist the working committee of administration staff and appointed Council members to work with the Engineer from the Gitksan Government Commission.



**Ground Water Drainage:** General discussion took place regarding the ground water drainage issues that both communities experience. With the lands of both communities so intertwined, a cooperative plan is necessary. The Village of Hazelton has secured a study grant and will enlist the same Engineering firm as the Gitanmaax Band to ensure that the plans for future ground water maintenance complement each others' report.

Scheduling conflicts from all parties resulted in no further meetings held prior to March 31, 2006.

#### 4. Recommendations and Future Directions

Now that dates have been confirmed between all parties we find ourselves beyond the deadline of the Community to Community Forum funding allocated for 2005. The parties would like to resubmit an application and carry forward in 2006 on one specific topic which is to complete a revised Joint Water and Sewer Works Capital Operation and Maintenance Agreement.

Included in this process will be the development of a memorandum of understanding on how the revised agreement will be administered in the best interest of the Gitanmaax First Nations and the Village of Hazelton.

It is proposed we work primarily on the service agreement issue by hiring a third party consultant to work with us in its structure and application. This would lead to a revision of the current agreement or a series of memorandums of understanding on the operations, cost sharing arrangements and joint planning for future capital improvements.

In addition, the series of meetings will provide a forum for continuation of the Community to Community dialogue to date. It will give the two parties an opportunity to update each other on the progress of current projects and to identify opportunities for collaboration on new initiatives of mutual interest and benefit. In addition, the continuity will help to build upon avenues of communication that will assist both communities in addressing challenges for future service delivery and infrastructure.

#### 5. Financial Summary – Appendix “C” Attached

Joint Meeting - November 23, 2006

- Agenda Preparation \$ 15.75 (in kind contribution - Village of Hazelton)
- Room Rental \$ 25.00 (in-kind contribution - Village of Hazelton)
- Minutes \$ 75.00 (in-kind contribution – Village of Hazelton)
- Final Report \$125.00 (in-kind contribution – Village of Hazelton)
- Meals \$240.75 (Community To Community Forum funding)

Total Costs **\$481.50**



## APPENDICES:

Appendix "A" -	Forum Agenda
Appendix "B" -	Minutes of Forum
Appendix "C" -	Financial Statement
Appendix "D" -	Media Release



## APPENDIX “A” -Forum Agenda



## COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM

### Village of Hazelton Council & Gitanmaax Band Council

November 23, 2005 6:00 p.m.  
At the North West Community College

1. INTRODUCTIONS
2. REVIEW OF THE PAST PROJECTS WE HAVE WORKED ON JOINTLY:
  - walking path
  - animal control
3. DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT STEP IN WORKING ON THE SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR THE JOINT WATER AND SEWER WORKS
  - propose hiring of a third party consultant - Mr. David Morris to work primarily on the service agreement, working with a committee which will include at least one elected official from the Village of Hazelton, one elected Council member from the Gitanmaax Band Council, the Administrator from the Village of Hazelton, the Executive Director from the Gitanmaax Band Council and the Engineer from the Gitksan Government Commission
4. OTHER PROJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST
  - water leak detection
  - ground water drainage
  - water treatment upgrade



## APPENDIX “B” -Minutes of Forum



## COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING

NOVEMBER 23, 2005

**Dinner meeting held at Northwest Community College 6:00– 8:30 p.m.**

Attendees:

Dorothy Lattie -Gitanmaax Band Councillor  
Willie Mowatt- Gitanmaax Band Councillor  
Nick Marshall –Village of Hazelton Councillor  
Dave Ryan – Village of Hazelton Councillor  
Shirley Muldon – Village of Hazelton Councillor  
Alice Maitland – Mayor of Hazelton  
Veronica Green - Gitanmaax Band Councillor  
Gwen Adams - Gitanmaax Band Councillor  
Bridie O'Brien –Executive Director – Gitanmaax Band  
Helen Koning – Administrator – Village of Hazelton

- Dinner was served.

- **Introductions:**

Mayor Maitland thanked everyone for coming and said it was good to be together and that we should do this more often.

- **Review of Past Joint Projects:**

Walking Path:

some general discussion about looking into lighting on the path  
Bride said she would contact the Ministry of Transportation about offering more lighting along the path within the Gitanmaax Reserve  
-Concern was expressed on the garbage on the trail and the need for the receptacles to be cleaned out. Helen said she would bring this issue up with the Trail Committee.

Animal Control:

Bridie spoke about the band's use of the humane society out of Kitimat. The Band is willing to partner with the village on the funding for the Animal control and Bridie would contact Helen the next time the Kitimat team is coming to the area to also provide fair warning to the residents.

Joint Water and Sewer works

General discussion centred on the process to date, the concern for the next step in this review to be undertaken prior to the upgrade and expansion of the



water treatment plant which may include the Regional District area of Lower Two Mile.

Helen will proceed with the hiring of Mr. David Morris to work primarily on the service agreement working with a committee of administrative staff (Bridie will be asking if there would be interested Council members who wish to attend) from both the Band and the Village and also the Engineer from the Gitksan Government Commission. These meeting should be scheduled for January.

#### Water Leakage:

Bridie indicated that the Band now has the proper detection equipment and both Band and Village staff have been trained on this and will begin to work on this project for next spring with work to commence in the summer

#### Ground Water Drainage:

Bridie indicated that the Band has concerns with the drainage of water from Hospital Lake and would like to continue with the idea of draining the water out toward the Bulkley River across from the Gitanmaax Hall before it some comes further down the reserve and finally to the Village of Hazelton. Bridie and Tony are working with Gord Wolfe of the Ministry of Environment on this issue.

Helen indicated that Village of Hazelton public works staff have spent a great deal of time this summer working on the clearing of ditches, cleaning out culverts and making necessary repairs as required. In addition the Village has received study grant funding and has enlisted the firm of Kerrwood Leidal to work on the ground water drainage study. The Village chose to use the same firm as the Band to ensure that the plans would compliment each other.

Helen asked Bridie to consider at least at minimum the clean out of the ditch along the bank above the Jack residents to ensure a free flow of ground water, should the Band decide not to proceed with the work to install a culvert.

Until further work on the ground water drainage is done both parties will continue to do their due diligence and keep each other informed over the winter on the progress or issues of ground water drainage.

#### Gitanmaax Cemetery:

Bridie said she has learned that the Cemetery is not part of the reserve and that the cemetery she believes is for the whole community and that they are having concerns around the cost of maintaining the reserve. Alice was not sure of the status of the cemetery but indicated that she believed it was part of the reserve. Bridie will investigate this further and Alice will investigate the potential resources that might be available through the Heritage Branch of the Provincial Government.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



## APPENDIX “C” - Financial Statement



### Financial Statement:

Joint Meeting - November 23, 2006

- Agenda Preparation \$ 15.75 (in kind contribution - Village of Hazelton)
- Room Rental \$ 25.00 (in-kind contribution - Village of Hazelton)
- Minutes \$ 75.00 (in-kind contribution – Village of Hazelton)
- Final Report \$125.00 (in-kind contribution – Village of Hazelton)
- Meals \$240.75 (Community To Community Forum funding)

Total Costs **\$481.50**

Community to Community Forum Funding Received \$2,700.00  
50% of the Expenses to be paid by UBCM \$ 240.75  
Unused portion returned to UBCM **\$2,459.25**



## APPENDIX “D” - MEDIA RELEASE