May 18, 2006

*2005/06 Regional Community to Community Forum Final Report*

*Forum Objectives*

The reserve lands of Kwantlen First Nation are located within the municipalities of Fort Langley, Maple Ridge and Mission. The objectives of our forum were to have our Kwantlen Council and Elders Advisory Group host three separate meetings with the Mayors and Council of each municipality in which Kwantlen has reserve land to discuss issues of common concern, provide some background and education on Kwantlen First Nation initiatives and work on developing positive and proactive working relations between our Nation and municipal governments in relation to various issues. Specifically, we viewed these meetings as an excellent opportunity to share information on how we operate, to discuss the establishment of a protocol for effective communication between our Nation and municipal governments, share history, and lay a foundation for future meetings and discussions.

*Forum Participants*

Participants included the Kwantlen First Nation Council, the Kwantlen Elder’s Advisory Group and Kwantlen membership, the District of Mission Mayor and Council and the Township of Langley Mayor and Council. Unfortunately due to scheduling difficulties, we were unable to arrange for a meeting with the District of Maple Ridge prior to March 31, 2006. This has resulted in an under-expenditure in funding for this program.

*Assessment of whether Forum Objectives were achieved*

We are very pleased with the results of the meetings held with the respective Mayor and Councils from the municipalities of Mission and Langley in which Kwantlen First Nation has reserve lands, and feel that in the case of both meetings our forum objectives were met.
September 14, 2005 – Meeting with Mayor Abe Neufeld and Council, District of Mission

In attendance from Mission:

Mayor Abe Neufeld
Councillor John Pearson
Councillor Jenny Stevens
Councillor Ron Taylor
Councillor Ian Waters
Glen Robertson, CEO
Kim Allan, Mission Forestry Department

In attendance from Kwantlen First Nation:

Chief Marilyn Gabriel       Elder John Savino
Councillor Les Antone       Elder Maureen Gabriel
Councillor Tumia Knott      Elder Hazel Gludo
Elder Helen Carr            Farley Antone
Elder George Antone

Major issues discussed/recommendations/ written materials:

- Meeting was held at the District of Mission office. Dinner was provided by the District of Mission.
- Background information on Kwantlen First Nation was provided.
- The focus of this meeting was updates on various initiatives relative to forestry and Kwantlen wanting to explore ways of working together with the District of Mission on forestry initiatives. Please refer to attached presentation.
- Recommendations came forth at the end of this meeting by both Kwantlen First Nation and the District of Mission to continue to meet and explore options and ideas further.
- Please note that there were no news items that appeared or were created for local newspapers as a result of this event.
A commitment was made from the event held to continue to meet and to work on relationship building, and we have since met with the District Council on various business and social events since the hosting of this meeting.

Because these were initial and information sharing meetings, formal minutes of these meetings were not recorded and therefore not distributed to all of the attendees.

February 22, 2006 – Meeting with Mayor Kurt Alberts and Council, Township of Langley

From the Langley Township:
Mayor Kurt Alberts
Councillor Steve Ferguson
Councillor Jordan Bateman
Councillor Bob Long
Councillor Charlie Fox
Councillor Howie Vickberg
Councillor Grant Ward

From Kwantlen First Nation:
Chief Marilyn Gabriel
Councillor Les Antone
Councillor Tumia Knott
Elder Hazel Gludo
Elder Helen Carr
Elder George Antone
Chris Thomas
Wilfred Thomas
Elder John Savino
Elder May Rae
Elder Maureen Gabriel
Elder Ruth Tough
Farley Antone
Eileen Thomas
Michelle Saul
Tyrone Thomas

- Dinner was provided.
- Background information on Kwantlen First Nation was provided.
• Updates on various initiatives including the recent Erosion/water-infilling protection works on McMillan Island (Kwantlen IR #6), Kwantlen Health Department updates/community linkages, economic development plans, forestry initiatives, taxation authority establishment/service agreement negotiations.

• Also discussed was the concept of establishing a protocol agreement between Kwantlen First Nation and the Township of Langley to ensure a regular meeting schedule to keep updated on issues and regular communication between our two governments.

• Recommendations came forth at the end of this meeting by both Kwantlen First Nation and the Township of Langley to continue to meet and explore options and ideas further. A commitment was made by both governments to work on drafting a protocol agreement to define our relationship and ensure regular meetings and communication.

• Please note that there were no news items that appeared or were created for local newspapers as a result of this event.

• A commitment was made from the event held to continue to meet and to work on relationship building, and we have since met with the Township Council on various business and social events since the hosting of this meeting.

• Because these were initial and information sharing meetings, formal minutes of these meetings were not recorded and therefore not distributed to all of the attendees.

Recommendations by participants

Commitments were made by all municipalities with whom we met to continue to work on our relationship building, and to meet at least once or twice a year in a similar format. The Kwantlen Council is committed to seeing our relationship with our local governments continue to grow and to improve our methods of communication with each other and work on various initiatives collaboratively and in the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation.

Feedback from our Kwantlen Council and members of our Elders Advisory Committee on the results of these meetings were positive and many suggested that we continue to host these meetings and work on relationship-building with our local municipalities.
Meetings with the Mayors and Council were made open to Kwantlen community members to attend. Feedback received from those who attended was also similar as above.

Financial Summary of Event Expenditures

Please see attached financial summary.

Written Material from Event

Please see attached written material (agendas/meeting handouts) from the events hosted.

Acknowledgements

Kwantlen First Nation wishes to thank the Union of BC Municipalities and the First Nations Summit for approving our funding for our Community to Community Forum events. The events were very positive for our Kwantlen government in promoting our initiatives to local communities and in educating local communities on Kwantlen First Nation.
Kwantlen First Nation
Presentation to District of Mission
September 14, 2005

Overview:

- Kwantlen First Nation Territory
- Forest Industry & BC's Obligations - Background
  - Consultation and Accommodation
- Kwantlen's Forestry Initiatives
- Opportunities
Kwantlen First Nation
Presentation to District of Mission
September 14, 2005

Kwantlen First Nation Territory:

☐ see attached map
Consultation and Accommodation:

It is important that Mission understand how Kwantlen approaches forestry and other resource activities in our traditional territory.

Background Information:

“Aboriginal interest in the forest is based on a unique historical and legal perspective which is acknowledged by the Canadian Constitution. As a result, forest management practices in Canada must reflect the constitutional protection afforded Aboriginal and treaty rights. Recent court decisions – Delgamuukw and Haida-Weyerhaeuser in particular – demonstrate that the legal scope of Aboriginal and treaty rights is continuing to expand. These legal decisions translate, among other things, into responsibilities on governments to honour a legal duty to consult with Aboriginal Peoples and accommodate their interests on natural resource developments that may infringe on Aboriginal and treaty rights.”

- National Aboriginal Forestry Association – March 2005
Kwantlen First Nation
Presentation to District of Mission
September 14, 2005

**Relevant Court Cases and Developments:**

Kwantlen is guided by recent court cases which help to provide clarity, and confirmation concerning our aboriginal rights and title to the lands and resources in our territory. Recent developments include:

1997 – Supreme Court of Canada issues landmark Delgamuukw decision which defines aboriginal title. Specifically that aboriginal title is a right to the land itself—not just the right to hunt, fish and gather.

2002 – Haida case. Council of Haida Nation successfully claimed that Weyerhauser and BC did not properly consult when renewing a tree farm license. Confirmed that Haida not only had to be consulted but also have infringements to their rights accommodated, and that accommodation has a economic component.
Kwantlen First Nation
Presentation to District of Mission
September 14, 2005

**Relevant Court Cases and Developments:**

New Relationship Agreement: Premier and FN Leaders initiated a working agreement which will provide direction for First Nations and BC’s relationship. Some of the key elements of this agreement include:

- BC agreeing to new government to government relationship based on respect, recognition and accommodation of aboriginal title and rights
- Commitment to reconciliation of Aboriginal and Crown titles and jurisdictions
- Establishment of processes and institutions for shared decision making about the land and resources and for revenue and benefit sharing
- Shared vision including the goal of First Nations achieving self-determination through the exercise of their aboriginal title including realizing the economic component of aboriginal title, and exercising their jurisdiction over the use of the land and resources through their own structures
Kwantlen First Nation

Presentation to District of Mission

September 14, 2005

Kwantlen Forestry Developments:

For the past 2 years Kwantlen has been working on a number of initiatives to begin to actively participate in the forest sector in the territory. Current initiatives include:

☐ Through Kwantlen Development Corporation, we have become a member of BC Timber Sales

☐ Exploring forest resources on reserve lands

☐ In discussions with BC for a Forest and Range Agreement (FRA) which would provide for forest tenure in Kwantlen territory
Mission TFL and Kwantlen:

It is important that Mission understands how Kwantlen views the Mission TFL. Key points from our perspective, include:

- TFL 26 is the largest area based tenure within Kwantlen Territory
- TFL 26 lies within the heart of Kwantlen territory
- Has provided economic benefits to Mission since 1959
- There have never been serious discussions between Mission and Kwantlen with respect to this license.
- Although Mission is a municipality, in this respect Kwantlen views Mission as the largest operating forest company in its territory.
Mission TFL and Kwantlen:

The Forest Industry across BC and Canada has taken direct steps to actively engage the First Nation community with respect to their forestry activities in FN territories. These engagements include:

- Benefit agreements
- Joint ventures
- Contracting opportunities
- Employment and training opportunities
Mission TFL and Kwantlen:

While Kwantlen is mindful of its rights and expectations with respect to forestry activities in the Kwantlen Territory, we do not want to dwell on the past. Instead we are interested in furthering discussions with Mission to move forward in a positive, mutually beneficial manner.

We would propose that a joint working committee be formed. Discussion could include:

- Community Forest Opportunity
- Kwantlen Benefit Agreement
- Contracting and Employment Opportunities
Kwantlen First Nation Council Meeting with Mayor Kurt Alberts and Township of Langley Council Members

February 22, 2006
4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA:

1. Dinner
2. Welcome/Background/Introductions
3. Background information on Kwantlen First Nation
4. Updates: Bedford Channel Works (Dredging/Spurs/Erosion Protection for McMillan Island)
5. Recent Kwantlen First Nation Initiatives/Updates
   - Health Centre/Community Networking
   - Economic Development Plans (re: Kwantlen I.R. #5/ I.R. #6)
   - Forestry Initiatives
   - Taxation Authority Establishment/Service Agreement Negotiations
6. Discussion over establishing a protocol agreement between Kwantlen First Nation and the Langley Township to ensure a regular meeting schedule to keep updated on issues/determine new issues; to strive to work together on issues of common interest and concern; to establish a process for receiving/reviewing land referral information.
7. Additional items:
Kwantlen First Nation
Community Overview

Landset 7 Satellite Image - July 2000

[Map Image]

[Key Points]
- Langlely
- Whonnock
- Murray Island
- IR No. 1
- IR No. 2
- IR No. 3
- IR No. 4
- IR No. 5
Kwantlen First Nation Backgrounder
(current to February 2006)

Reserve Land Base

- 6 reserves in total – land base of 1227 acres
  - Kwantlen I.R. #1 – Whonnock (Maple Ridge) – 97 acres
  - Kwantlen I.R. #2 (Stave River (west side) – Mission) – 110 acres
  - Kwantlen I.R. #3 (Silvermere Island – Mission) – 89 acres
  - Kwantlen I.R. #4 (Stave River (east side) – Mission) – 237 acres
  - Kwantlen I.R. #5 (Maple Ridge) – 331 acres
  - Kwantlen I.R. #6 (McMillan Island – Fort Langley) – 412 acres

- Formerly, we had two reserves – I.R. #7 (New Westminster) and I.R. #8 (Surrey). These were sold in the 1940’s and 1950’s. This loss of our reserve land may form the part of a future specific land claim.

Traditional Territory

- Kwantlen Traditional Territory extends from Mud Bay in Tsawwassen in the south, to the northern end of Stave Lake to the north, east to Mission, and west to New Westminster.

Population

- Traditionally, Kwantlen was one of the largest aboriginal groups in the Lower Fraser River area. Oral historical/anthropological sources indicate the Kwantlen population in pre-contact times to be between 6-10,000 strong.

- Currently, the Kwantlen population totals 188 members (December 2005). Approximately half of these members live on reserve.

Governance

- The current governance of Kwantlen First Nation consists of one hereditary Chief (Chief Marilyn Gabriel) and two appointed Council members (Councillor Tumia Knott, Councillor Les Antone).
Kwantlen Elders are actively involved in Kwantlen governance. Elders provide general advisory services and are involved in decision making for the Kwantlen community.

Recently, the Kwantlen Council has established community committees to also assist in decision making for the community with respect to Education, Fishing, Lands and Resources, Housing and Social Issues. As we continue to grow, we anticipate having even more committees develop.

Programs and Services

- Kwantlen’s jurisdiction, in terms of the programs and services it provides, is significantly more expansive than that of a local municipality or federal department.

- Programs and services delivered by Kwantlen First Nation to Kwantlen membership includes the following:
  - Fishing (negotiating with DFO/ enhancement projects)
  - Education – K-12, plus post-secondary
  - Social Development, Child/Family Issues
  - Cultural Enhancement
  - Economic Development
  - Financial/Program Administration
  - Housing
  - Capital Projects
  - Lands and Resource Issues
  - Health Programs
  - Headstart/ Youth Programs
  - Maintenance/Public Works
  - Heritage Issues
  - Governance Issues
Kwantlen First Nation – Organization Chart

- Community Members
- Elders
- Director of Operations
- Chief & Council
- Director of Community Services
- Director of Lands & Resources
- Departments (see list)
- Staff
Kwantlen First Nation

Departments
1. Education
2. Health
3. Social Development
4. Lands & Resources
5. Community Infrastructure & Maintenance
6. Finance
7. Administration
8. Kwantlen Development Corporation - Economic Development
9. Culture/Community and Elders