

Lillooet Area Communities

Community to Community Forum

Final Report

Monday, March 13, 2006

T'it'q'et Administration Office
Council Chambers

Submitted To:

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Submitted By:

District of Lillooet
in partnership with
T'it'q'et (Lillooet Indian Band)
Xwísten (Bridge River Band)
Sek'wélw'as (Cayoose Creek Band)
Chalath (Seton Indian Band)
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Community Forum

Date: Monday, March 13, 2006 Time: 9:00 am – 4:10 p.m.

Location: T'it'q'et Administration Office – Council Chambers

Participants

Organizations

District of Lillooet
Lillooet Tribal Council
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Chalath (Seton Lake Band)
Sek'wélw'as (Cayoose Creek Band)
T'it'q'et
Xwísten (Bridge River Band)

Representatives

Name	Community
Valerie Adrian	School District # 74 – Gold Trail
Christ'l Roshard	District of Lillooet
Elaine Brew	District of Lillooet
Susan James	Bridge-River Band
Rod Louie	Seton Lake Band
Norm Leech	T'it'q'et
Kathy Young	District of Lillooet
Gerry Little	District of Lillooet
Dennis Bontron	District of Lillooet
Marilyn Napoleon	T'it'q'et
Russ Oakley	Squamish-Lillooet Regional District – Area A
Paul Edgington	Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Mickey Macri	Squamish-Lillooet Regional District – Area B
Yvonne Scotchman	T'it'q'et
Ben Clarke	Seton Lake Band
Stella A.M. Terry	Seton Lake Band
Marg Lampman	District of Lillooet
Genny Humphreys	T'it'q'et
Bradley Jack	Xwísten
Perry Redan	Cayoose Creek Band
Yvonne Scotchman	T'it'q'et

Opening Prayer – Chief Perry Redan

Introduction of Participants and Overview of today’s workshop – Rod Louie, facilitator

Facilitator, Rod Louie, introduced himself to the participants, and the history of his involvement in previous community forums that have been held. The last one was facilitated by Larry Casper.

Review of proposed agenda and discussion and addition of new agenda items. Rod then provided an overview of the community forums and their purpose. Community forums have been held for some time now, and there needs to be the development of a formal relationship to ensure that action items are followed up and addressed. Discussion of protocol is on the agenda, along with an example (to be reviewed by group).

Review Proposed Agenda

- ⇒ Add to “Other Business”
 - ⇒ Seniors Complex
 - ⇒ Community Forest
 - ⇒ 2010 Olympics
 - ⇒ Independent Power Projects (IPP)
 - ⇒ CN Rail

Participant Expectations for Today: *(in order spoken)*

Valerie Adrian

As the chairperson of the School District I am here as a guest and look forward to listening to the issues of the communities.

Christ'l Roshard

Mayor Roshard stressed the importance of building a strong relationship within the communities. To promote partnerships and looking forward to the 2010 Olympics opportunities.

Yvonne Scotchman

Welcome to the T'ít'q'et community. We are well on the way to working together. Looking to a wellness program and a Seniors Complex as opportunities. Looking forward to having a good day!

Perry Redan

The issues affecting all communities need to be discussed. We are in Government to Government discussions with the Province and BC Hydro. I would like to try to understand how the District of Lillooet operates and how the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District fits in.

Collectively we can achieve results. The first issue we discussed at our first Community Forum was busing to Kamloops for medical purposes – we do not yet have this. There is all kind of activities we can work on together. As Yvonne said, we cannot work in isolation.

Bradley Jack

I am here to build relationships. I agree that we cannot work in isolation. I am interested in Health and the Hospital. If we had more services at our local hospital we would not need to worry about transportation to Kamloops. I sit on the St'át'imc Chiefs Council and work on land issues with the Province and BC Hydro. We need to collectively work together and learn how to work together and support each other.

Genny Humphries

I sit on the T'it'q'et Economic Development Commission. I am new on council and I am here to listen and observe. I do believe that communication is important to this relationship.

Marg Lampman

This is my second Community Forum. Last Friday I spent at the Provincial Community to Community Forum. I heard some successful stories about Prince George and other communities. Hopefully I will be able to apply what I learned to today.

Mickey Macri

I also spent last Friday at the Provincial Community to Community Forum. I have also been involved in other Community Forums. At the Provincial Community to Community Forum I listened to communities discuss their successful service agreements. I would like to have seen the Fountain and Pavilion Bands here today. I am here to learn more and how to make it work.

Stella A.M. Terry (and Ben Clarke)

This is a new opportunity for me to learn what other communities are doing.

Paul Edgington

Administrator for the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and I am here to learn.

Russ Oakley

I am here as Vice-Chairperson of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District as John Turner, Chair, was unable to attend. I would like to attend other Community Forums as the Area A Director of the SLRD. We all tend to go our own way and do our own thing. Sometimes we have success and sometimes we are not successful.

With the approach the Province is taking we need to work together. New partnerships are possible. For example, Crown Land Sales - together we could make it happen but this may be premature for our agenda. I agree we need to learn to work together.

Marilyn Napoleon

We need to work together for stronger and healthy communities. Plan for the future, respect each others economies and work together respectively.

Dennis Bontron

This is my first Community Forum. We need to move forward on area's we can agree on. I encourage working on a Seniors Centre and the Drug and Alcohol problem. Process is not my strong point – it is Action. I am impatient. We need to choose the area's we can agree on. I am here to see if it is possible.

Gerry Little

I represent the Recreation Department for the District of Lillooet. I am here to meet people, I may have already talked with some of you. I want to let people know that we are here.

Norm Leech

I have been involved with the Community Forums since the beginning. I am on my third Mayor. We need to overcome history and what has happened in the past – even before our time. This process begins with leadership to push this thing forward – better understanding and finding win-win situations – there is no downside to the things possible.

T'it'q'et and the District of Lillooet share water and sewer systems which requires more planning and communications. We need a win-win before and during the 2010 Olympics otherwise we will not benefit as we could. We should not have to wait for Victoria to tell us what to do – WE need to make those decisions. We need to benefit from our resources in our area.

Rod Louie

I see a lot on this agenda. The Protocol is what it takes to make it work. Today's Community Forum is different than it was in the beginning. People acknowledge Leadership is required. Despite my involvement in contentious issues I want to move forward with this and promote the Protocol being established between the communities, the District of Lillooet and the SLRD. We need to start at some point. I have been involved with negotiations a the St'át'imc Chiefs Council and the easiest way I see to establish a relationship is to put it down in writing. We need more ongoing dialogue to get people to know each other. Creating a relationship is the most important step – preferably informal rather than formal.

Overview of Action Items

- a) Protocol – the lead persons were unavailable to be here today but a Sample Protocol from the SLRD has been attached as Schedule B of this agenda.
- ⇒ **Paul Edgington** gave an overview of the SLRD sample Protocol document.
 - ⇒ **Bradley Jack** – “Title to Territory” could be an issue with some of the wording in this sample document.
 - ⇒ **Perry Redan** – Do not like the term “First Nation”. It does not reflect the individual communities. What is the role of the SLRD? I would like to be clear as to their duties and how they perceive themselves.
 - ⇒ Discussion occurred on whether the SLRD should be included in the Protocol.. The response by the SLRD representatives were as follows:
 - ⇒ **Mickey Macri** – I want to be able to communicate with aboriginal and non-aboriginal people in the area.
 - ⇒ **Russ Oakley** – Regional Districts give rural residents an opportunity to have elected representation to create cooperation between rural and urban communities. Electoral Area’s A and B cover the same area as the Northern St’át’imc Nation. We are all the same area. I think it is important that we sit together.
 - ⇒ **Paul Edgington** – Area’s of common interest between the SLRD and aboriginal communities would be land use planning, cultural issues, emergency planning and wildfire protection planning. We simply provided a copy of our draft document for you to use parts of if you wish.
 - ⇒ **Perry Redan** – This first started between the District of Lillooet and First Nations. It should be inclusive rather than exclusive. See this Protocol to be flexible on representation.
- b) Heritage – the lead person was unable to be here today.
- c) Lillooet & District Recreation, Education and Cultural Centre (R.E.C. Centre)
- ⇒ **Norm Leech** gave an overview of the Construction and Operating costs of the R.E.C. Centre and the financial contributors to each. (attached as Schedule A)
 - ⇒ Discussion on how the communities need to get more out of the REC Centre before they would agree to additional operating funding for the Centre. If there is greater use and ownership then additional operating funding may follow.
 - ⇒ Need to determine what each community wants out of the REC Centre.
 - ⇒ Have an information booth on the REC Centre at the St’át’imc Gathering.
 - ⇒ **Paul Edgington** – Rename the Centre as a launch to a new program. REC does not represent what it means. A re-naming ceremony could be held. Do not cancel programs if they do not break-even as this causes people to not sign up or feel confident in the programs.
 - ⇒ **Dennis Bontron** – Should look at those parts of the Centre that are not fully utilized – for example, the pool. As a councillor for the District of Lillooet, taxes is an issue. With Policing we are looking at a 10% increase and another 10%

- increase with water. I do not think we can ask the taxpayer for more. The Cultural Centre is important – we could do preliminary cultural programs in the REC Centre prior to the building of the Cultural Centre. All Communities need to support the REC Centre.
- ⇒ **Perry Redan** – I was unaware that the REC Centre was in dire straights. I will bring it to the attention of council to have someone participate – probably the education coordinator. Would like to see the costs of the REC Centre provided.
 - ⇒ **Russ Oakly** – have you thought about selling it?
 - ⇒ **Rod Louie** – Dennis had a good point about implementing some cultural programs now. We need small successes now. Look at more representation from each community. We need Strategic Planning with all the communities – how do we tackle this issue.
 - ⇒ **Perry Redan** – What portion of the Centre is used for education purposes? (not much)
 - ⇒ **Bradley Jack** – We try to support the Centre and encourage use of the Centre. Our community needs more youth programs. When we were kids there were more leagues, soccer and softball. Can the REC Centre create opportunities for these leagues?
 - ⇒ **Christ'l Roshard** – Those leagues were run by volunteer parents - which has changed. Possibly the REC Centre could provide a framework but they would still need volunteers.
 - ⇒ **Paul Edgington** – If you have trouble keeping volunteers you may want to find a way to publicly thank volunteers to encourage new volunteers.
 - ⇒ **Mickey Macri** – Do you have seniors programs? Floor Curling is becoming popular. Why are events in town occurring in hotels or other places and not at the REC Centre?
 - ⇒ **Kathy Young** – We know it is happening, I cannot say why for all of them but I did ask one organizer and was told the instructor preferred to have the course held at the hotel they were staying in.
 - ⇒ **Norm Leech** – What about a regional youth worker?
 - ⇒ **Yvonne Scotchman** – Is that not what the youth centre is for?
 - ⇒ **Norm Leech** – This person would work together with all communities to utilize all services available for youth in the area. It would be a full time job for one person and represent all communities.
 - ⇒ **Mickey Macri** – Has Ainsworth Lumber been approached about sponsorship? (no)

d) Community Economic Development Officer

- ⇒ **Christ'l Roshard** - We discussed the Community Economic Development Officer at the last Community Forum. The District of Lillooet council has advertised for an EDO. We felt it was important that we proceed immediately with the hiring of an EDO to assist us with the Economic Recovery Plan the Premier has requested from us. We would like to still make this a combined EDO with all the communities. The District of Lillooet currently only has 9 months of funding each year for the EDO function. We would see an opportunity to

- combine funding and share the EDO function that will result in better communication and agreement when we decide to move forward on economic development initiatives. We would also like Area A and B of the SLRD to share in this function.
- ⇒ **Russ Oakley** – Area A has some funding already going towards an Economic Development Society. There may be some funding in our select funds.
 - ⇒ **Perry Redan** – This Economic Development Plan for the Premier – what are you recovering from?
 - ⇒ **Christ'l Roshard** – The Provincial Regionalization of services that resulted in a loss of 50 – 60 government jobs, hospital bed cutbacks and a decrease in business revenue.
 - ⇒ **Perry Redan** – Was this offered to all communities? (no)
 - ⇒ **Mickey Macri** – Area B could be interested in an EDO but cannot commit too much. Possibly provide some select funds.
 - ⇒ General discussion occurred on why we need an EDO.
 - ⇒ **Christ'l Roshard** made the statement that her council has had the question “What would it take to make Melvin Creek go?” – there was no response to this question.
 - ⇒ **Yvonne Scotchman** – We get very little economic development dollars now. Generally it gets spent on training. Before we can make a commitment we need to talk to the community. Do you have a budget?
 - ⇒ **Kathy Young** – We have budgeted between \$110,000 and \$125,000 but we currently can only afford 8 - 9 months each year.
 - ⇒ **Dennis Bontron** – We need \$300,000 each year to properly fund the function.
 - ⇒ **Norm Leech** – Is there a return on that?
 - ⇒ **Dennis Bontron** – If you get the right person.
 - ⇒ **Norm Leech** – I am the vice-chair of the Lillooet Economic Development Commission. Lillooet needs an EDO – so do all the communities. I am also the chair for the Upper St'át'imc Cultural Language and Education Society (USCLES). There are opportunities but we need someone to oversee them. All members of both committees are volunteers and things get done if there is time. I think it will pay off if we invest in it – invest in our small businesses and entrepreneurs.
 - ⇒ **Christ'l Roshard** – If any communities come up with an economic development project – this person would support it. The Provincial Government is looking for a success – if we could approach them together we will be successful.
 - ⇒ **Norm Leech** – This funding would be an investment – the dollars spent on economic development come back 3 times. It is all marketing.

Rod Louie – It is time to break out into working groups. Depending what you are interested in you may join any group or circulate between groups if you are interested in more than one topic.

- ⇒ Protocol
- ⇒ REC Centre
- ⇒ Regional Economic Development Officer
- ⇒ School Board (no group met on this subject)

Each group needs to answer the following questions:

- a. What are the issues?
- b. How can we best work together to resolve/address the issues?
- c. What are the next steps?
- d. What are the action items?
- e. Who is the lead person?
- f. What additional funding / resources are required?

Break-out Groups Report Back to Table

1. Protocol

a. What Issues need to be addressed?

- i. Need to formalize communications
- ii. Need to identify and explain organizations, their roles and responsibilities
- iii. Need to clarify linkages between organizations
- iv. Need to identify issues of mutual concern or interest
- v. Possible need for cooperation agreements between St'át'imc Communities and District of Lillooet and between St'át'imc Communities and Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD)
- vi. St'át'imc Nation needs resources

b. Points to consider:

- i. Best to work together by understanding and working with openness trust ad respect.
- ii. Be certain to identify process organization are presently involved in (e.g. Regional Growth Strategy (RGS), Ministry of Transportation Dialogue, Northern Development Initiative (NDI))

c. What is required:

- i. An agreement between the District of Lillooet and the St'át'imc communities to provide certainty.
- ii. An explanation to the St'át'imc communities as to what the SLRD is and does.

d. Next Steps:

- i. District of Lillooet and St'át'imc communities to develop a cooperation and protocol agreement
 1. Mayor Roshard and Chief Redan to revise the SLRD draft to reflect local terminology prior to circulation for review within communities.

2. Incorporate “Openness, Trust, and Respect” as key principles in the agreement.
 3. Circulate the agreement to communities upon resolve of a draft by Chief Redan and Mayor Roshard.
- ii. SLRD provide Lillooet Tribal Council with a written overview of the SLRD’s organization, roles and responsibilities and invite an opportunity for the SLRD to explain the roles of the SLRD to the St’át’imc communities.

2. REC Centre

a. **Issues**

- i. Parks & Rec Committee needs St’át’imc representation on it.
- ii. Need to increase operational funding
- iii. Need to increase user ship of facility
- iv. The St’át’imc communities do not feel a sense of ownership.
- v. Need to determine what interests the St’át’imc communities have in regards to
 1. programming
 2. equipment
 3. funding

b. **Conclusions:**

- i. The District of Lillooet will request each St’át’imc community to provide representation from their community to sit on the Parks & Rec Committee.
- ii. The Director of Recreation (for the DoL) will set up a booth at the St’át’imc gathering to be held May 10th to 13th. Director of Recreation will also create a survey that will address the wishes of the community members in regards to the REC Centre and recreation in general. This survey will be distributed from the booth at the St’át’imc gathering and all completed surveys will be placed into a draw for a prize (REC Centre pass).
- iii. Director of Recreation will meet with representation from each St’át’imc community and provide a facility tour and gather a list of facilities that each of these communities have themselves. Could possibly use all these facilities as a ‘whole’ recreation program.
- iv. The St’át’imc communities look at hiring on youth coordinator. Present a plan to the SEA committee for funding out of the 131 targeted dollars.

3. Regional Economic Development Officer

a. Issues

- The need for an Economic Development Officer was confirmed.
- The selection process for EDO was discussed – St’át’imc representative to be involved in selection
- Long-term funding sources need to be identified
- Identifying funding partners needed

b. How can we best work together to resolve/address the issues?

- The need for communication was identified.
- It was noted that ‘staff’ need to meet on a regular basis and that there be continued support of the Economic Development Commission.
- Training to be provided to volunteers on the EDC due to the shortage of people with the required training. Recruiting was needed for one representative from each of the St’át’imc communities.
- Ensuring consistent land-use planning and sharing of information needs to continue.

c. Next Steps.

- Cultural programs going forward as soon as possible.
- Protocol Agreement need to demonstrate to the Province a higher level of cooperation.
- Target date set for October (UBCM) for Economic Development Recovery Plan. Plan to include Forestry, Tourism, Education initiatives.
- First Nations involvement in selection of Economic Development Officer

d. Action Items

- Hiring of an Economic Development Officer
- St’át’imc representation on the selection committee for the Economic Development Officer

e. Who is the lead person?

- Economic Development Officer

f. What additional funding / resources are required?

- Commit funds in the EDO Budget for training opportunities
- Look for other funding partners
- Appoint a ‘Hosting Group’ for potential investors

Other Business

a) 911

- ⇒ Paul Edgington updated what Area A and B of the SLRD and the District of Lillooet are doing with 911. After they get approval from their residents and 911 is up and running then the Northern St'át'imc Communities would be asked if they would be interested in participating in the 911 function and what that would cost.

b) Forestry Advocate

- ⇒ Christ'I Roshard advised the group that the Forestry Committee for the District of Lillooet and the Village of Lytton have issues with the Cascade Forest District regarding personal attention to our area. For example, the local stumpage rates. When the 2 forest districts were amalgamated the overhead allowance was reduced. This Advocate would look at these types of issues including access. Ainsworth needs access and lower costs or the mill will be shut down for a while this summer. We are looking for a high level bureaucrat to find solutions for us and change government policy.

c) Community Forest

- ⇒ Christ'I Roshard - Community Forests have lower stumpage rates applied to them. It has been suggested that the District of Lillooet, the Northern St'át'imc Communities and local Licensee's form a board that would manage the community forest and other available fibre. Revelstoke has a successful community forest. Is there interest in talking about this?
- ⇒ Perry Redan – It is important to work on the Protocol. Forestry is on collective area we can work on. A forestry supply review is ongoing and looking at the licensees undercut.

d) Seniors Complex

- ⇒ Could be a responsibility of the Economic Development Officer.
- ⇒ Yvonne Scotchman – The Chillax'n Youth Centre building (owned by District of Lillooet) and the old Fisheries Building (owned by T'it'q'et) could be an area for an Elder Care Centre. The area is close to all the services in town including the medical clinic and the hospital. It would contain “assisted living units”. If required the old “Baker and Fraser” lot could be another option.
- ⇒ Norm Leech – Technical Services is planning a 3 senior housing unit on T'it'q'et lands. The Fisheries building was bought with the view of economic development. This does not seem like an economic development initiative.

e) **Transportation**

- ⇒ Christ'l Roshard updated the Table on what the District of Lillooet council has done regarding this issue.
- ⇒ Written to Greyhound requesting a daily bus route from Whistler / Lillooet / Kamloops.
- ⇒ Administration for the municipality is working on an immediate plan of providing transportation to Kamloops 3 days per week. Hoping Health will coordinate appointments in Kamloops. The District of Lillooet will be using their "Gas Tax" dollars to fund this.

f) **Independent Power Projects** – to become part of the Protocol.

g) **Health and Hospital**

- ⇒ Marg Lampman – There are now only 6 beds in the Hospital. There are 2 other rooms that are currently being used for storage. We are trying to get beds back into the rooms do they will be available for when we have more than 6 patients. A couple of weeks ago we had 13 patients who were kept in the Emergency Room and the hallway. We have a lack of nurses.
- ⇒ Looking at having Lillooet become a surgical centre for Doctors from Kamloops to perform surgeries so they can get all of their surgical hours in.
- ⇒ We need a physiotherapist for Interior Health.
- ⇒ The Health Society is putting a challenge to Lillooet residents to write down what they think needs done to improve health services. They will all be compiled and submitted to the Premier. A winner will be picked from the entries and will receive a free copy of the local Hiking Guide.

h) **Drugs and Alcohol**

- ⇒ Creation of a "Drug Free Zone" is not getting approval from everyone. If someone is caught in this zone, they will receive a double penalty. The zone would be around the Lillooet Secondary School and the trail.

Closing Prayer – Chief Bradley Jack

Next Steps

- Minutes / Notes to be distributed by Kathy Young, Rod Louie
- Next Meeting to be held prior to 6 months.