COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM

Final Report
Table of Contents

Forum Objectives 1
Participants 1
Issues Discussed 1
  Lifestyles and Community
  Diversification and Organizational Unification
  Share the resource
  PowerPoint: North Thompson Indian Band
Next Steps 1-2
  Potential Funding Sources
  Partnerships
  Developing a Strategic Plan
Recommendations 2
Financial Summary 2
Appendices
  I. Participant List
  II. Agenda
  III. Session Minutes
  IV. PowerPoint: North Thompson Indian Band
  V. Media Release
  VI. Invoicing
Community to Community Forum

Forum Objectives
The Community-to-Community Forum created a grass roots dialogue between the North Thompson Indian Band NTIB and valley participants. At the end of the session, participants were:
a) Familiar with fellow participants roles and “their stories”,
b) Aware of First Nations addictions (the same as non-First Nations communities),
c) Aware of band management and conservation,
d) Moving to identify economic developments within the valley and
e) Discuss and identify potential community strategies at our next meeting on the 17th of December.

Participants (19)
Chief Nathan Matthew, Eddie Celesta, Tina Donald and Martha Matthew (NTIB)
John Smith (TNRD)
Directors Walker (Wells Gray Country), Quinn (Area B) and Kershaw (Area O)
Wells Gray Services Committee (3)
Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing (1)
Clearwater Improvement District (2)
Clearwater Chamber of Commerce (1)
Community Recovery Committee (1)
Heartland Communities Preservation Alliance (1)
Wells Gray Country Resource Society (1)
Kevin Kreuger’s office (1)

Issues Discussed
Issues initially centered around lifestyles and community. With the loss of two major employers in the North Thompson Valley and the recent devastation by the fires during the summer of 2003, people were now recognizing the importance of diversification, and organizational unification. All of us recognized that in adversity there was a out-pouring of community spirit, which was partial testament as to why we live in the North Thompson Valley. Residents were now saying the same thing that First Nation’s People have said all along; our governments are directing resources outside the valley without consulting residents. We were not talking just about our forest resources, but also water and the incredible tourism potential in the North Thompson. The general overview was that everyone in the valley is welcome to share resources and it is equally important to resolve valley issues that will sustain family and communities. We should learn and partner with First Nations to create a working group to develop a strategic plan for long term commitment from Barriere to Blue River. Tina Donald presented a PowerPoint on the North Thompson Indian Band.

Next Steps

Potential Funding Sources
• Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)
• Human Resources Development Corporation (HRDC)
• Community Futures
• North Thompson Relief Fund
• Interior Savings

November 27, 2003 Chu Chua B.C.
Community to Community Forum

Next Steps Continued

Voice for the Valley Participants
- NTIB
- TNRD Directors
- Wells Gray Country Services Committee
- Chamber of Commerce, Blue River, Clearwater and Barriere
- School Trustees
- Clearwater Improvement District
- Skills Centre Board
- Heartland Preservation Group

Recommendations
At a strategic planning meeting on the 17th of December, identify short, medium and long term economic developments within the valley that may affect all North Thompson communities jointly.

Financial Summary

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<th>Particular</th>
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<th>Actual</th>
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Total $1595.00 $1162.22
Appendix I: Participant List

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Matthew</td>
<td>North Thompson Band</td>
<td>672-9496</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nmatthew@microt.a">nmatthew@microt.a</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Donald</td>
<td>NTIB</td>
<td>672-9995</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tdonalde@simpson.com">tdonalde@simpson.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Smith</td>
<td>Mike Wickele Helicopter Skating</td>
<td>673-8381</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gsmith@wickele.com">gsmith@wickele.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June Phillips</td>
<td>Heartland Communities Preservation Alliance</td>
<td>314-6031</td>
<td>kevinkruger.mla@ca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Powers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric MacKay</td>
<td>TNRD &amp; Terrace</td>
<td>672-9641</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Ratten</td>
<td>Community Recovery Committee</td>
<td>672-8518</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Dunn</td>
<td>TNRD, from &quot;A&quot;</td>
<td>672-9815A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Walker</td>
<td>TNRD Wells Gray Country</td>
<td>674-2657</td>
<td>bwalker@mercury speed.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liana Beaudry</td>
<td>Chamber of Commerce (Clearwater)</td>
<td>674-3914</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@riveradventures.ca">info@riveradventures.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Lee Kedzie</td>
<td>Clearwater Improvement District</td>
<td>674-2237</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl Tomlin</td>
<td>Volunteer &quot;Clear, North (W.E.C. Society)</td>
<td>674-5240</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joc. Morden</td>
<td>Wellgray Services Co.</td>
<td>587-3373</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ted Richardson</td>
<td>Wells Gray Country Services Co.</td>
<td>676-0022</td>
<td>apacket@mercury speed.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Smith</td>
<td>TNRD</td>
<td>333-8673</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jsmith@tard.bc.ca">jsmith@tard.bc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Matthew</td>
<td>NTIB</td>
<td>672-9995</td>
<td>hirth manager@</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Storie</td>
<td>TNRD Wells Gray Country</td>
<td>674-3530</td>
<td><a href="mailto:resottie@tard.bc.ca">resottie@tard.bc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray A Jackson</td>
<td>CLW Improvement District</td>
<td>674-9726</td>
<td>ray.jackson@mercury speed.ca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddie Celestine</td>
<td>NTIB</td>
<td>672-9995</td>
<td>hmanager @simpson.com</td>
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### Agenda

**Meeting – Wednesday, November 27th, 2003**

**A G E N D A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>0930 hrs</td>
<td>Introduction from Chief Nathan Matthew</td>
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<td>0945-1100</td>
<td>Participants Roles and “their” stories</td>
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<td>1100-1200</td>
<td>PowerPoint from Fish and Wildlife Coordinator, Tina Donald</td>
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<td>1200-1300</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1300-1400</td>
<td>Discussion on Economic and Tourism Developments and Potential Valley Development</td>
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<td>1400-1410</td>
<td>Closing Comments</td>
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Community to Community Forum

Appendix III: Session Minutes

Thursday, November 27, 2003

MINUTES of the Community-to-Community Forum held at the Neqwe’yqwelsten (band school), Chu Chua, B.C. commencing at 1000 hrs.

PRESENT:
Please see the attached photocopied list.

1. Opening remarks from Chief Nathan Matthew
Chief Matthews welcomed everyone in a day where we would meet strategically to target issues and maintain a high level of health, social activities and community lifestyles. Nathan stressed since two of our major industrial employers have left the valley, the importance of becoming more economically diverse and competitive is imperative. It is also important for organizations to become more unified, which will make the North Thompson Valley a better place to live. Chief Mathews was given a message from the elders to: maintain quality life for the community, provide for youth and support their dreams and aspirations. We will have failed if we can’t do this. Residents of the valley are now saying the same thing that First Nations has always been saying; we are prostituting our resources to the Americans. We have taken our positions for granted for too long a time. Aboriginals have rights to the resources that are legal and now they will be taking stronger steps in getting out there and doing something. The NTIB will be filing a Rite of Summons before December 11th, 2003. They will be challenging tenures and consultation. The NTIB have been nice up to now but now we will become a firmer but respectful player.

2. Participants Roles and Their Stories
Director Walker felt that major corporations have not created a feeling of stewardship in the community. The NTIB wants to work with the communities; they care and have always practiced stewardship. Bert also noted it is important to get creative at the community level but wondered how we get a single voice out of the valley? Service Committee Wes Morden felt that corporations are necessary but need stronger control. Wes explained that the Services Committee is in its infancy stages and his personal interest is to implement recycling efforts for the area.

Director Quinn felt that everyone is welcome to share the resources. He suggested that this is the first meeting of its kind where communities of the North Thompson are reaching out in return to resolve valley issues. Mike Wiegele’s Heliskiing Greg Smith realizes and acknowledges the SIMPQW. In 2001 a memorandum of understanding was signed between Wiegele and the SIMPQW. Currently Wiegele and the SIMPQW are working on a joint venture between Albreda Lodge and Saddle Mountain. More support is required from corporations and people; Wiegele is in it for the long term. The North Thompson needs to build more community based businesses that can sustain families.

Business person Liana Beaudry is concerned about the loss of family and self-government that is occurring in the valley. She believes that community unity begins with the family. Liana also stressed our greatest natural resource is our water.

November 27, 2003 Chu Chua B.C.
CID’s Ray McKenzie felt that the improvement district has gone through some important changes with the election of new trustee’s this year. As chair of the CID he is trying to show that he is willing to work with the NTIB and WGCSC. He feels it is important to show the valley that we can all work together. He is surprised the province is still taking resources out of the valley. We always seem to be reactive not proactive.

Heartland Communities Preservation Alliance representative Lauren Powers felt before the McClure fire there was a sense of complacency but after the fire there was realization we had community. She felt there has been no voice representing residents during the fire or mill closure (through appeurtancy). She feels there needs to be a unified voice from the TNRD from Barriere to Blue River. Trust must be established up and down the valley although there is a sense of uneasiness about a core leadership process.

Director Kershaw felt that we should be looking at further value added resource based opportunities. We must look beyond logs in order to keep the young people in the valley.

Community Recovery Committee’s Rob Ruttan feels that the first group to create a sense of community was the Mennonite Disaster Group. He feels there is a lesson of community spirit to be learned. Rob felt that it is gratifying to be shown acts of kindness from outside the community when often there is no accountability from the community. He felt the fire has given the community an opportunity to start fresh (purged by fire).

Services Committee’s Ted Richardson has worked with First Nations for just over 30 years. Ted feels that history has made it difficult and gratifying to see how First Nations are starting to help themselves. As Nathan said previously, our communities are starting to feel how First Nations have always felt about watching our resource control being relinquished. Ted thought that striking a committee / working group to learn the experiences of First Nations is an opportunity we should take. We must take control of our own destiny and draw upon the wisdom the First Nations people have acquired over years in creating their destiny. A North Thompson working group should come up with objectives goals and strategies to go to the TNRD with a design on our own future decisions. Today means long term commitment to making the valley incredible!

Chief Matthews described to the group that 70% of the band was employed. He feels that the SIMPQW takes care of elders and youth as much as possible. As with non-First Nation Communities, there is still alcohol, drug, family violence and drinking-driving addictions to be reckoned with. The future big challenge will be the aboriginal title and rights. Simply put, First Nations have been challenged through the federal government’s programs. By employing strategic planning exercises within the community, elder’s complex and other achievements have occurred in the community. You must take accountability on in your own lives. Currently, there is no mechanism to negotiate with the Attorney General’s office. Chief Matthews feels there has been no consultation with First Nation interests in the valley. The province wants to discuss legislation, not develop it with the Simpcw. This is why the Simpcw will not sit at the table. Nathan felt we should recognize the other global economic forces at work in the valley. In order to create stable social economic lifestyles we must diversify local rural economies. Most of the solution may be in the valley…but not all. In the case of disasters, we must work with other similarly hit communities out of necessity. Nathan points out that it has been easy to organize a peaceful protest with ex-Tolko employees. He suggests that if the trees and water were owned by the NTIB, it would be a more secure place for people in the valley.

CID’s Ray Jackson suggests we must also not overlook our tourism potential. He agrees that we must take control of our own destiny.
Kevin Kruger’s Office assistant June Phillips wonders if getting a single voice in the valley was brought up at the Clearwater Rural Summit?

3. **PowerPoint from Tina Donald (please refer to attached PowerPoint)**
4. **Gifts**
   Director Walker gave Chief Matthews a arrow point he had found as a boy on the Okanogan. Director Quinn gave the Band 2 turkeys raised in Blue River. The NTIB gave each member of the forum a pen.
5. **Lunch**
6. **Next Steps to Valley Unification**

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<th>What are Potential Funding Sources available to us?</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)</td>
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<td>• Human Resources Development Corporation (HRDC)</td>
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<td>• Interior Savings</td>
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<td>• NTIB</td>
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<tr>
<td>• TNRD Directors</td>
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<td>• Wells Gray Country Services Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Skills Centre Board</td>
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<td>• Heartland Preservation Group</td>
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Appendix IV: Power Point North Thompson Indian Band

North Thompson Indian Band

Vision Statement:
The Simpcw are a Culturally Proud Community, valuing Healthy, Holistic Lifestyles based upon Respect, Responsibility and Continuous Participation in Growth and Education.

North Thompson Indian Band
Box 220
Barriere, British Columbia V0E 1E0
Ph#(250)672-9995 Fax#(250)672-5858
Band Office Location: 17km North of Barriere, B.C. on Dunn Lake Rd.
Office hours: 8:00am—4:00pm
Email: ntibadm@simpcw.com
North Thompson Indian Band (NTIB) Membership

Total population for the band is currently 594 (Jan.'03). Approximately 300 individuals live on reserve.

The North Thompson Indian Band has five parcels of land:
- I.R. #1 main reserve, North Thompson #1
- I.R. #2 Little Fort, Nehalliston
- I.R. #3A Barriere Reserve 4.01 acres not inhab.
- I.R. #4 Louis Creek 7.3 acres
- I.R. #5 Boulder Creek, 692 acres not inhab.

CHIEF AND COUNCIL

The Band Council consists of one Chief and six Councillors.  
Chief and Council term of office:
- 3 years
- Next election April 2006
- Custom Election Process in place since 1997

NORTH THOMPSON INDIAN BAND COMMUNITY CENTER

Includes:
- Neqweygwelsten School
- Simpcw Health Center
- Community Hall
- Headstart Program
- Band administration office

The Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nation is comprised of 17 bands.

The North Thompson Band is one of these bands located in the interior of British Columbia.
The following are individuals fall under the NTIB band administration:

- Band Manager
- Receptionist
- Education
- Social Worker
- Family Support Worker
- Two full time & one part time Bookkeepers
- Executive Sec./Membership Clerk
- Dunn Creek Hatchery
- Three Janitors
- Maintenance Dept.
- Fish & Wildlife Project. Coordinator
- Geographical Information System Dept.
- Computer Maintenance

The North Thompson Indian Band administration began slowly with a few employees in December of 1973. Eddie Celesta was hired on as band manager and still is band manager today. There were a few individuals who were doing contract work within the band who were eventually pulled into the band organization in early 1974.

In 1975 the Chu Chua Community Hall was built and housed the band staff. NTIB personnel began to grow and soon needed larger office space. A trailer was purchased in 1978 and housed the staff until 1985 when building was built to house the ever increasing numbers of staff. Since 1995 the core staff and Simpcw Health Centre staff were moved into one building at its present location. (picture page 2)

Prior to the office buildings being built; the back of the old St. John the Baptist Church was used for council meetings. The original Church was built in 1913. The community celebrated it’s seventy fifth anniversary in 1988. October 9, 1995 the church burnt to the ground leaving the community without a church until 1997.

St. John the Baptiste Church (1997)

Elder's Home—
4 double units, 2 single units
Neqweyqwelsten School started out as a group of parents with children who started up a morning program in 1982 taking up a corner of the community gym. It grew into a band operated Nursery/Kindergarten Program working out of a trailer. In 1993 the school moved into its present location, pictured above.

Neqweyqwelsten School went to year round education (1997), for the children and their families to benefit from cultural activities. Starting school in August reduced the time the kids were out of school which reduced the re-learning time of the students. The teachers were able to get students back in regular programs quicker.

The kids receive the same School District curriculum with the added bonus of Language and Culture. Today Neqweyqwelsten school is a community operated school with an active Shuswap language & culture program. an active Parents Committee oversee the schools program.

The School provides support to the Head Start program operated in the same building. The program is in third year of operation.

The Head Start program takes in children at age three. The day after the child turns four years they are allowed into Neqweyqwelsten School.

Head Start student 2002

4
SIMPCW HEALTH CENTRE
- Health Manager
- Health Clerk
- Simpcw Wellness Coordinator
- Community Health Nurse
- Community Health Rep.
- Youth Worker
- Homework Tutor
- Adult In Home Care
- Two Part time Home Care Workers
- Child Development & Family Support
- Available Counseling Services outside of organization

"January 1, 1999 the Simpcw Health Board officially began administering programs previously delivered by the Medical Services Branch of the Federal Government. The board manages a contribution agreement with the Branch which will continue to March 31, 2003. The board has been granted this mandate by Band Council Resolution and is guided by a Mission Statement which supports the concept of promoting holistic health, and the community Health Plan, which is based on health needs identified by a community needs assessment."1

"The Simpcw Health Board supports programming which is responsive to community needs. We believe that competent staff, working in concert with informed membership, can achieve our shared vision of holistic health for all."2

The Simpcw Health Board is currently made up of nine members of the community who volunteer their time to meet on a monthly basis to review Health programs. The Health Board was formed in 1996 and continues to operate.

Programs:
- Patient travel program
- Home and Community Care program
- Alcohol and drug programs
- Mental health
- Family supports
- Handicapped, elders and physical supports
- Financial management/budgeting
- Child neglect/abuse

Simpow Health Board promotes the integration of services.

The Board will incorporate broad band services in 2003.
DUNN CREEK HATCHERY
HABITAT & RESTORATION, SALMONID
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

Located 32.5 km North of Barriere on Dunn Lake Road
Sponsored by: North Thompson Indian Band
Project Manager: Rick Gray
Technician I: Howie Fortier

We presently produce Coho from the following
streams:
- Dunn Creek—15,000 target
- Louis—30,000 target
- Lemieux Creeks—15,000 target
- Coho has been added to the endangered species
  COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered
  Wildlife Species in Canada 2002)

The hatchery started out raising Coho in 1983 in the base
of the chlornation shack of the band. This proved to be a
problem of moving smolts out. It was then decided to set up on Dunn Lake. The Dunn Lake
hatchery was set up on the south end of Dunn Lake in 1984. A crew was hired and lake pens
were built. The site was eventually moved to the north end of Dunn Lake. The site would prove
to be unsatisfactory due to too warm water temperatures for our smolts. It lead to too many mort-
alities. A tenure was signed with Land and Water B.C. and a new site was built in 1992 on the
banks of Dunn Creek. The move allowed to the hatchery to ground water fed, which was cooler
water. Cooler water means less mortalities.

The Hatchery Program is overseen by the Band Fish-
eries Committee. The main focus of the committee is the conservation and management of any
fish stock within the Simpcw Traditional Territory. Some of the programs the fisheries committee
has been involved in the past years are:
- Chinook enumeration program on Raft River, Finn Creek and
  Louis Creek (picture right: crew tagging a Chinook prior to releasing up stream)
- Catch monitor throughout the whole territory
- Stewardship program for the Upper Fraser River and North Thompson River watersheds
- Barriere River selective harvest fence
- Involving summer program youth in fisheries activities
- Habitat restoration projects on a variety of streams in our area
- Playing an active role in Neqweyqwilxwten School cultural pro-
gram
- Working in partnership with the licensees & forest district lo-
cated within our traditional territory

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cated within our traditional territory
SELECTIVE FISHING PROGRAM

The main focus is conservation and management of fish stocks with the Simpcw Traditional Territory. The fisheries committee, in conjunction with the band, were able to secure funding for catch monitoring. Funds were available through the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy starting in 1993. The monitor recorded stocks being harvested but also informed band members where fish were in abundance. This led to the North Thompson Indian band leading the way in selective fish harvesting methods in Shuswap Territory.

Left:
Gaffing Sockeye on Raft River

Popular Selective Fishing Streams for Chinook or Sockeye:
- Raft River - North Thompson R.
- Finn Creek - Clearwater R.
- Holmes R. - Upper Fraser R.

Below:
Dip netted Chinook from Holmes River

Above:
Dip netting Chinook on Clearwater River @ Kettle Drum Falls
COMMUNITY SERVICES & FACILITIES

NATIVE SHOWCASE—housed within the band office complex are glass showcases featuring beaded First Nations Art work from various communities; traditional birch bark baskets; artifacts; numerous photo albums featuring community events and history.

GRAVEL TRUCK/BACKHOE/HYUNDAI EXCAVATOR—three pieces of band owned equipment

A.A. GROUP— the Chu Chua Alcoholics Anonymous group was originally formed in the early 1980’s and is still a very active group today.

CHU CHUA POW WOW COMMITTEE—host annual “Honoring Young Women” Pow Wow

SUPPORT GROUPS—through the Simpcw Wellness Worker, there are support groups set for men or women when the community feels the need.

CAMILLE-EUSTACHE CONSTRUCTION— Owned and operated by Tom Eustache and Corinna Camille-Eustache. A band member owned company are involved in the renovations of band owned houses on reserve and have constructed many of the homes on reserve.

An example of a Social Housing home that was built in 2002.

SALMON RUN

The first “Salmon Run” started from Tete Jeune Cache on the Upper Fraser River and made its way down Yellowhead Hwy#5 to Kamloops, through Savona, Cache Creek, down the Fraser Canyon on Hwy.#1 to Vancouver. The purpose of the Salmon Run was to raise funds for the CN Twin Tracking court case. In 1989 Canadian National Railway had plans to put another track along side the existing track. All First Nations involved felt that was would be disastrous for the salmon resource that travel the Fraser and North Thompson Rivers.

To day the North Thompson members still carry out the Salmon Run from Tete Jeune to Louis Creek.

The trek is divided up into three sections. A variety of people volunteer their time to ride over a span of a weekend.

Group one on the end of their part of the “Salmon Run”
CHU CHUA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 1985 to the Present
The department started out with 11 active members of all age groups. Presently the core group consists of five members. Fire Chief plus four other band members.

The current fire hall was open in the fall of 1988.
The current members have taken basic fire training from First Nations Emergency Social Services.

A few of the current members and additional members have been added to the department as First Responders. Chu Chua is at least 20+ minutes from the nearest clinic and up one hour or more from a hospital. First Responders are called out before an ambulance in life threatening emergencies to provide first aid until the ambulance arrives.

Main Equipment: '87Chev Mini Pumper (250 gal.), '74 International Tanker (1500 gal.), SCBA tanks, portable 1500 gal. tank.

Over the past couple of summers, the fire department has set aside time to teach our youth the basic fire fighting training. They saw this as time well spent, having young people who had some knowledge in case of a real big emergency.

The fire department has played an active role in the "Learn Not To Burn" campaign in our school. The department has put on different sessions involving Neqweyqwelsten School ie. Teaching how to use a fire extinguisher.

The Chu Chua Volunteer Fire Department host annually a slo-pitch tournament as their main fund raiser. The year 2002 marked its 16th annual tournament.

Above: first responder getting to know the layout of an ambulance
Right: Fire Chief Les Fortier presenting fellow fire dept. member with "Oldest Player" Trophy
COMMUNITY PLANNING SESSIONS

Since 1989 the community of the North Thompson Indian Band get together once a year, fall/winter, to do planning for the upcoming year. Part of the planning is to prioritize the community needs and develop an action plan and select individuals to carry out the plans. Each passing year the community priorities change. The planning sessions are scheduled away from home, in order for people to focus.

At each planning session three priorities are outlined for the community to follow through within an allotted time frame.

SIMPCWETKWE YOUTH GROUP

Over the past couple decades the youth groups has grown and changed. A few of the band members have been involved in some form or another over that time. Some of our accomplishments over the years have been: field trips to Bella Coola & West Edmonton Mall; movie nights; sending teams or individual players to the National Aboriginal Indigenous Games; developing a Junior (age 6-10) & Senior (age 11+) youth groups

For the past couple years the North Thompson Indian Band through the Simpcw Health Board have supported a Youth Worker position and later on an assistants for the program. The Health Board put together what they would like to see from the position based upon previous planning sessions, involving youth input.
SIMPCW DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

The idea of setting up a sawmill in Chu Chua was conceived early in 1991 as a division of the North Thompson Indian Band. The purpose of the project was to establish a small sawmill that will return the Band a profit as well as providing entry level jobs to Band members.

Simpcw Dev. Co. Ltd. originally started out as “Chu Chua Sawmill” but on July 30, 1991 it was incorporated as “Simpcw Development Co. Ltd.” January 1, 1992 Simpcw Dev. started officially using it’s name. January 1, 1993 they started their own accounting system employing one full time bookkeeper.

Chu Chua Sawmill started out with one manager/loader man, sawyer, tail sawyer/edger, green chain operator and one person for waste material. Today Simpcw Development employs one supervisor and 17-22 sawmill workers (ranging from full time to part time/on call basis).

The sawmill uses two Kodiak saws to custom cut timber. Simpcw Development owns one Kodiak. The other is owned and operated by Bowser Custom Cut.

The six member Simpcw Development Board of directors oversees the planning, finances and future developments of the sawmill.

Non-Replaceable Forest License—
53,000m² wood fiber

Initially signed in 1997 with the Ministry of Forest. Majority of the license involves cedar / hemlock within the North Thompson drainage. As of 2003 Simpcw Development has five years of the agreement remaining.
The Simpcw

"People of the North Thompson River"

The Simpcw are a division of the Secwepemc, or Shuswap, who occupied the drainage of the North Thompson River upstream from McLure to the headwaters of Fraser River from McBride to Tete Jeune Cache, over to Jasper and south to the headwaters of the Athabasca River. The Simpcw speak the Secwepemc language, a Salishan language, shared among many of the First Nations in the Fraser and Thompson River drainage. The Simpcw traveled throughout the spring, summer and fall, gathering food and materials which sustain them through the winter. During the winter months they assembled at village site, in the valleys close to rivers, occupying semi-underground houses. Archaeological studies have identified winter home sites and underground food cache sites at a variety of locations including Finn Creek, Vavenby, Birch Island, Chu Chua, Barriere River, Louis Creek, and Tete Jeune.

The Simpcw traditionally were noted for their hunting ability. In the summer months much of their time was spent in hunting camps in the mountains above the North Thompson and upper Fraser Rivers. Both river systems provided salmon, which were caught in weirs, nets and by spear. Both meat and fish were smoked or dried then stored for consumption. Numerous plant foods were also collected and preserved for winter use. There was active trading, and sometimes warfare with the Sekani and Cree people. Presently Simpcw People practice many of their traditions while learning and working in modern society.

Today about half of the nearly six hundred Simpcw people live on the North Thompson Indian Reserve at Chu Chua just north of Barriere and on the Louis Creek Reserve. Many band members are employed in the forest industry as mill workers and loggers. The band owns a small sawmill. The North Thompson Band employs many members. The administration is governed by the Band council, oversees the social, educational, and economic development of the membership. With other Secwepemc communities, the Simpcw are taking steps to have their aboriginal right to their traditional territory recognized by provincial and federal governments. Simpcw people value their positive relationships with non-Native people in the North Thompson and Robson Valleys. They also recognize that their key strength lies in maintaining links to their traditional heritage and look forward to securing a place for their children in contemporary society that they can embrace with pride.

Simpcw Elders at their Christmas Lunch 2002.
Our community value the Elders. They have much to contribute to our community growth.
OVERVIEW OF CONTRACTING BUSINESS, CONTRACTORS AND TECHNICIANS OF THE NORTH THOMPSON INDIAN BAND

Chinook Cove Contracting
Don Matthew
Phone: (250)672-5238
- logging with cable/grapple or rubber tired skidder
- Excavator: site prep, road building, deactivation, in-stream work
- Log loading or sorting
- Log sales; log hauling
- Cat dozer work

CPL Contracting Ltd.
Larry & Heather Eustache
Phone: (250)672-0131
- logging with grapple skidder and line skidder
- Excavator: site prep., road building, deactivation, in-stream work, right of way
- Log loading, sorting and hauling
- Log sales

Larry Lampreau Contracting Ltd.
Larry Lampreau
Phone: (250)672-2488
- spacing, pruning, plotting, weeding, brushing, slashing/burn pile, site prep for planting, planting for landing block
- Danger tree assessment, block layout, GPS traverse, block painting
- Forest health surveys, single tree disposal, spacing
- Stream surveys

Skowutum Creek Contracting
Joe Jules
Phone: (250)672-9887
- slashing, Controlled burning
- Danger tree assessment; danger tree falling
- Block painting
- Surveys: forest health, stream
- Single tree disposal
- Archaeology assessment

W.D. Matthew Log Transport
Willy Matthew
Phone: (250)672-9685

Certified Forest Technicians:
- Ankie Bowie
- Harry Jules
- Warren Fortier
- Jeff Eustache
- Sid Jules
- Deanne Eustache

Certified Fisheries Technicians:
- Duane Eustache
- Deanne Eustache
- Sid Jules

Other: Clint Donald, John Matthew, Cory Eustache, Doug Eustache, Tim Jack
Community to Community Forum

Appendix V: Media Releases

Community-to-community forum to weld Valley groups

KEITH MCNEILL

"The intent is to get to know each other, or to use Nathan Matthew’s term, ‘‘to learn each other’s stories.’‘

That’s how Bert Walker described the purpose of a community-to-community forum being planned for community leaders from all the North Thompson Valley.

The gathering will be held at Chu Chua at a date not yet determined, said the Thompson-Nicola Regional District director for Wells Gray County (Clearwater-Vavenby).

Steve Quinn, TNRD director for Blue River-Avala, and Bill Kershaw, the director for Barriere-Little Fort, have indicated their support for the meeting, Walker said. Nathan Matthew, chief of the North Thompson Indian Band, has also said he is interested and will participate.

TNRD director Bert Walker is calling for community-to-community forum in Chu Chua.

The Wells Gray Country (Clearwater-Vavenby) services committee has applied to the Union of B.C. Municipalities for funding for to provide transportation to the forum for people from the north end of the Valley, Walker said.

"I think it’s important that we put our energies together and get something going,” said Chief Matthew.

"I’m concerned that the interests of the residents of the North Thompson Valley are not being handled very effectively by present practices, for example, the fiber supply or wood supply.”

There are opportunities for the native and non-native residents in the Valley to work together, he believed, so long as they both respect each other’s interests.

The NTIB chief felt there has already been more cooperation within the Valley since Weyerhaeuser announced it was closing its Vavenby sawmill last November.

Forum idea is worth pursuing, says North Thompson Indian Band chief Nathan Matthew.

Blue River’s Steve Quinn also endorsed the forum.

“We’re all in the same boat. We’re all being screwed by the same people,” he said.

Community-to-community forum brings valley leaders together

All day session in Chu Chua Wednesday results in the determination to develop a “Voice for the Valley,” by the valley’s community delegates

KEITH MCNEILL

North Thompson community leaders are getting organized.

“It’s very simple,” says North Thompson Indian Band chief Nathan Matthew. “The crisis brought about by the fires, by Weyerhaeuser pulling out and by Tolko leaving, means that the complacent attitude that people had is gone.”

A community-to-community forum held Thursday in Chu Chua was very successful, he reported.

Community representatives from one end of the valley to the other gathered to talk about the issues they face, what they are doing about them, and what they could do together in the future.

A follow-up meeting is planned, Matthew said. It is tentatively scheduled to be held in the Little Fort Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 17.

Expected to attend will be representatives from North Thompson Indian Band, the three Valley regional district electoral areas, and the various improvement districts.

Possibly MLA Kevin Krueger and businesspeople such as Mike Wiegele will be at the meeting as well, said the NTIB chief.

The second meeting will be more specific than the first regarding strategy and the particulars of action, both short term and long term.

Matthew invited all Valley residents to write down their questions and ideas — what they see for the area’s economic future.

Submissions can be dropped off at Barriere Employment Services, at North Thompson Community Skills Center in Clearwater, or at the Blue River weather station trailer.

Matthew said the delegates at the first forum hope to develop a voice for the Valley that will tell the various agencies concerned what the people in the Valley want.

“If we wait for people to do something for us, it might take longer and we might not be so happy with what we get,” he said.
Appendix VI: Invoicing

INVOICE
November 27, 2003

To: TNRD/Community Futures
c/o Ron Storie
Clearwater, BC

From: Robert Beaudry
Box 2538, Clearwater, BC
V0E 1N0 Tel/Fax: 250 674-3914
www.riveradventures.ca
info@riveradventures.ca

Transportation with 15 passenger van for:
Community to Community Forum Meeting
Thursday November 27th, 2003
North Thompson Indian Band
Chu Chua Band School

$350.00 plus GST = $374.50

Thank you,

Ron Storie

Robert Beaudry
GST number: 86526 5292 RT0001

December 1, 2003
Appendix VI: Invoicing

Ron Storie
From: Bernita Eustache [accounting@bimpcw.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 2:10 PM
To: rstorie@tnrd.bc.ca
Subject: Invoice

North Thompson Indian Band
Box 220
Barriere, B.C.
VOE 1E0

INVOICE
Attention: Ron Storie
TNRD
Community to Community Forum
November 27, 2003
Rental of Premises $ 150.00
Luncheon $ 300.00
Total $ 450.00

Please make cheque payable to North Thompson Indian Band. Thank you.

Bernita Eustache
Accounting

12/11/2003
### Appendix VI: Invoicing

**REQUEST FOR CHEQUE**

**PAYEE:** Steve Quinn (TNRD B Director)

**DESCRIPTION:** Mileage

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**DATE:** 15-Dec-03

**INVOICE NO.:**

**INVOICE AMOUNT:** $132.72

(Stamp or signature)

**Dec 15, 2003**