



NORTHWEST TRIBAL TREATY NATIONS

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NORTHWEST TRIBAL TREATY NATIONS REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TO-COMMUNITY FORUM PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

I. FORUM OBJECTIVES

Forum #1 (Two-Sessions)

NWTT hosted a number of formal meetings and attended other meetings in the region focussing on economic development. A consistent theme that has emerged is that First Nations are continually left out of meaningful development efforts in the region. First Nations are always in the outside looking in and there is a lack of communication and networking between First Nations and the non First Nations communities. At the same time there is expression that there is an increasing need to trust one another and we have to start working together or we will not go forward in creating economic growth in the North.

It is envisioned that the proposed forums will be a large step in building trust and a major step in building a renewed relationship based on mutual recognition, mutual respect, sharing and mutual responsibility. It is envisioned that there will be an increased understanding of the realities of treaties, economic opportunities in the region and the development of a shared responsibility for overcoming those barriers to economic growth. Most of all it is envisioned this will be a key first step in developing structural partnerships that will allow First Nations communities to work along with other communities, and business in the region on the path to sustained economic growth.

Forum #2 (One Session)

In the meetings noted another theme is the lack of investment capital. Within the last two or three years there has been a marked economic downturn in the region, shut down of primary industries and exodus of workers and other population. One big result is that venture capital has all but disappeared and traditional lenders are not interested in the region. At the same time First Nations are part of this experience and do not have access to equity capital. Without efforts to attract investment capital there will be little or limited economic growth in the region.

It is envisioned the proposed forums will highlight investment opportunities that are available in the region and major revenue sources that can be utilized. Another key focus will be to bring together a number of key stakeholders in the region along with potential investors and begin to develop a network between those initiating ventures and those interested in investment opportunities.

II. Participants

Please see attached delegate and speaker lists for each forum including name, title, address and email addresses for:

- 1) Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality Western Forum – Howard Johnson Highliner Inn, Prince Rupert, B.C. June 2, 3 & 4, 2004 (**Appendix 3**)
- 2) Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality Eastern Forum – Prince George Civic Centre, Prince George, B.C. June 16, 17 & 18, 2004 (**Appendix 3**)
- 3) Attracting and Accessing Investment Capital in North western BC Conference – Kitsumkalum Community Hall and the Best Western Terrace Inn, Terrace, BC October 6, 7 & 8, 2004 (**Appendix 3**)

III. ISSUES DISCUSSED

III.1 SPEAKERS AND TOPICS

Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality Western Forum – Howard Johnson Highliner Inn, Prince Rupert, B.C. June 2, 3 & 4, 2004

NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC
Dr. Stephen Ameyaw	Research Associate-CED Program	Simon Fraser University/Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	Community Economic Development in Aboriginal Communities
Mr. Maynard Angus	General Manager	Community Futures Development Corporation (Pr. Rupert, BC)	Panel Moderator/CFDC Representative
Chief Jerry Asp	Chief	Tahltan Nation	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Brian Battison	President & CEO	Mining Association of BC	Economic Opportunities in our Region: BC Mining
Honorable Pat Bell	Minister of State for Mining	Pr. George North	Economic Opportunities in our Region: Mining Opportunities in BC
Mr. Craig Caruso	Councillor	North Central Municipal Association	Forum Host
Mr. Harley Chingee	Chief	McLeod Lake First Nations	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Stan Dueck	President	Kayah Wood Products	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Ms. Lucy Gagnon	Band Manager	Moricetown First Nations	
Dr. Joe	President	Nisga’a Lisims	Forum Keynote Address

Gosnell		Government	
MLA Roger Harris	Skeena MLA	BC Government	Opening Welcome
Mr. Lawrence “Buddy” Helin	Elder	Lax Kw’alaams First Nations	Welcome to Traditional Territory
Mrs. Marietta Helin	Elder	Lax Kw’alaams First Nations	Opening Prayer
Mr. Robert Hill	President	Tsimshian Tribal Council	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Marc Imus	Inter Agency Management Committee Manager	Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management	Forum Host
Mr. Clarence (Manny) Jules	First Nations Fiscal Institutions Act Spokesperson	Indian Taxation Advisory Board (Kamloops, BC)	Forum Guest Speaker-Day 2 “First Nations Economic Development/Participation & the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act”
Mr. Matthew Lucas	Chairperson	Ma Mook Development Corporation (Ucluelet, BC)	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Don Manson	Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project	University of Northern British Columbia (Pr. George, BC)	UNBC Northern BC Economic Vision and Strategy Project
Mr. Keith Matthew	Consultant	Indian Taxation Advisory Board (Kamloops, BC)	Forum Guest Speaker-Day 2 “First Nations Economic Development/Participation & the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act”
Chief Nathan Matthew	Chief/Chairman	North Thompson Indian Band/Shuswap Nation Tribal Council	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Greg Meredith	Community Economic Development Services	Community Futures Development Corporation - Nadina	Economic Opportunities in our Region: Tourism Opportunities in North-western BC
Chief Sophie Pierre	Chief	Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council	Forum Keynote Address (Dinner Session) KKTC Successful Ventures
Mayor Herb Pond	Mayor	Prince Rupert City Council	Opening Welcome
Chief Leonard Thomas	Chief	Nak’azdli First Nations	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Gerald	Co Chair	Northwest Tribal	Forum Host/Moderator

Wesley		Treaty Nations	
Chief Steve Wilson	Chief	Kitamaat Village Council	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Dr. Kenneth Whyte	Economic Strategy Initiative Project Director	Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations	Economic Strategy Initiative Update

III.2 SPEAKERS AND TOPICS

Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality
 Eastern Forum – Prince George Civic Centre, Prince George, B.C. June 16, 17 & 18,
 2004

NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC
Dr. Stephen Ameyaw	Research Associate-CED Program	Simon Fraser University/Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	Community Economic Development
Mr. Brian Battison	President & CEO	Mining Association of BC	Economic Opportunities in our Region: BC Mining
Mr. Trent Blind	Chief Financial Officer	Siksika Resource Developments Ltd.	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Harley Chingee	Chief Councillor	McLeod Lake First Nations	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Paul Blom	Consultant	Carrier Sekani Tribal Council	Economic Opportunities in our Region: BC Forestry Sector
Mr. Kevin Brown	Master of Ceremonies/Forum Moderator	North Central Municipal Association	MC/Forum Moderator
Dr. Joe Gosnell	President	Nisga’a Lisims Government	Forum Keynote Address
Mr. Marc Imus	Inter Agency Management Committee Manager	Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management	Forum Host
Mr. Lowell Johnson	Consultant	Moricetown First Nations & Kayah Wood Products	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Matthew Lucas	Chairperson	Ma Mook Development Corporation (Ucluelet, BC)	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Don Manson	Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project	University of Northern British Columbia (Pr. George, BC)	UNBC Northern BC Economic Vision and Strategy Project
Mr. Greg	Community	Community	Economic Opportunities in our

Meredith	Economic Development Services	Futures Development Corporation - Nadina	Region: Tourism Opportunities in North-western BC
Mr. Jim Sproul	Executive Director	Pine Beetle Task Force	Economic Opportunities in our Region: Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development
Mr. Justa Monk	Co Chair East	Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations	Forum Host/Welcoming Address
Mr. Barry Seymour	Chief	Lheidli T'enneh First Nations	"Local Success Stories" Panel Presentation
Mr. John Swaan	President & CEO	Pellet Flame Inc	Economic Opportunities in our Region: Pellet Flame Inc.
Chief Leonard Thomas	Chief Councillor	Nak'azdli First Nations	"Local Success Stories" Panel Presentation
Chief Steve Wilson	Chief Councillor	Kitamaat Village Council	"Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories" Panel Presentation
Dr. Kenneth Whyte	Economic Strategy Initiative Project Director	Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations	Economic Strategy Initiative Update
Mr. Don Zurowski	General Manager	CFDC Fraser Fort George	Forum Host

III.3 SPEAKERS AND TOPICS

Attracting and Accessing Investment Capital in North western BC Conference – Kitsumkalum Community Hall and the Best Western Terrace Inn, Terrace, BC October 6, 7 & 8, 2004

	NAME	TOPIC	TITLE	COMPANY
1	Blind, Trent	<i>Community Revitalization/First Nations Keys to Success</i>	Chief Financial Officer	Siksika Resource Development Ltd
2	Barton, Betty	<i>Provincial and Federal Funding Agencies</i>	Business Coach	National Research Council
3	Bedard, Kathy	<i>Business Development</i>	Manager	Hecate Strait
4	Bolton, Chief Alex	<i>Welcome</i>	Welcome	Kitsumkalum Traditional Territory
5	Catherwood, Geoff	<i>Angel Investors/Venture Capital</i>	Director, Venture Capital	Business Development Bank of Canada
6	Clark, George	<i>Moderator</i>	Moderator	Owner/Elan Travel
7	Croot, Kim	<i>Welcome</i>	Assistant	MLA Roger Harris
8	Davies, Marylin	<i>Welcome</i>	Director	16/37 CFDC

9	de Bloeme, Greig	<i>Provincial and Federal Funding Agencies</i>	Senior Business Officer	Western Economic Diversification
10	Dopson, Jim	<i>Lending Agencies</i>	External Delivery Officer	TRICORP
11	Earl, Ken	<i>Lending Agencies</i>	Area Manager	Northern Savings Credit Union
12	Francois, Dianne	<i>First Nations Keys to Success</i>	Councillor	Little Shuswap Indian Band
13	Gagnon, Lucy	<i>Local Success Stories</i>	Band Manager	Moricetown First Nations
14	Godet, Francois	<i>Welcome</i>	Constituency Assistant	MP Nathan Cullen
15	Hayward, Rod	<i>Local Success Stories</i>	President & CEO	Hawkair
16	Higgins, Shirley	<i>Business Development</i>	Director	Women's Enterprise Society
17	Jones, Larry	<i>Lending Agencies</i>	Senior Business Analyst	16/37 CFDC
18	Jules, CT Manny	<i>First Nations Keys to Success</i>	Spokesperson	Indian Taxation Advisory Board
19	King, Renata	<i>Keys to Success</i>	Consulting Partner	Business Development Bank of Canada Consulting Group
20	Krusel, Don	<i>Community Revitalization</i>	President & CEO	Prince Rupert Port Authority
21	Lantin, Peter	<i>Business Development</i>	Business Development Officer	TRICORP
22	Leeson, Dick	<i>Lending Agencies</i>	Marine Loans Officer	TRICORP
23	Martell, Keith	<i>Keynote Address/Lending Agencies</i>	Chairman	First Nations Bank of Canada
24	McLennan, Wayne	<i>Lending Circles</i>	Manager Financial Services	Dana Naye Ventures
25	McNab, Nancy	<i>Local Success Stories</i>	Owner/Manager	McNab Morris Developments Ltd. KVI/KCSC
26	Mercer, Arthur	<i>Local Success Stories</i>	Economic Development Coordinator	Nisga'a Lisims Government
27	Minnabarriet, Carmie	<i>Lending Circles</i>	Investment Fund Intern	CFDC of CIFN
28	Morrison, Michael	<i>Business Development</i>	Business Analyst	TRICORP
29	Murray, David	<i>Provincial and Federal Funding Agencies</i>	Development Officer	Aboriginal Business Development
30	Ng Stewart, Paul	<i>Environmental Groups</i>	Credit Manager	Ecotrust

31	Pastrick, Helmut	<i>Keynote Address</i>	Chief Economist	BC Credit Unions
32	Penney, Marg	<i>Community Revitalization</i>	Project Officer	Pender Harbor Growth & Development Partnership
33	Pennington, Colleen	<i>Angel Investors/Venture Capital</i>	Director - Portfolio Assessment	Telus Ventures
34	Pierre, Chief Sophie	<i>Community Revitalization</i>	Chairperson, Chief	Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council
35	Playford, Joy	<i>Keys to Success</i>	Vice President	Business Development Bank of Canada Consulting Group
36	Pop, Alex	<i>Angel Investors/Venture Capital</i>	Manager, Subordinate Financing	Business Development Bank of Canada
37	Roberts, Julianne	<i>Lending Circles</i>	Yukon Micro Loans Coordinator	Dana Naye Ventures
38	Roberts, Mildred	<i>Elder Prayer</i>	Prayer	Kitsumkalum Traditional Territory
39	Scott, Andrew	<i>Keynote Address</i>	Executive Vice President	ALTURA Growth Fund
40	Simpson, Shane	<i>Environmental Groups</i>	Director of Policy and Communications	Smart Growth BC
41	Smith, Greg	<i>Business Development</i>	Manager Business Development	Skeena Native Development Society
42	Talstra, Mayor Jack	<i>Welcome</i>	Mayor	City of Terrace
43	Toomey, Rich	<i>Lending Agencies</i>	Branch Manager	Business Development Bank of Canada
44	Van Gils, Pieter	<i>Environmental Groups</i>	Director of Economic Development	Ecotrust
45	Volker, Michael	<i>Angel Investors/Venture Capital</i>	Manager	Vancouver Technology Angel Investors Network
46	Wesley, Gerald D.	<i>Conference Wrap Up</i>	Co Chair West	Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations
47	Whyte, Dr. Kenneth	<i>Conference Organizer</i>	Economic Strategy Project Director	Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations
48	Wong, P. Ian	<i>Provincial and Federal Funding Agencies</i>	Portfolio Manager	MSBED Investment Capital Branch

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUTCOMES

*Please see attached evaluations from participants of each forum (**Appendix 4**)

Outcomes

Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations has been engaged in a multi-year project, our objective is to plan and develop an integrated and coordinated approach to northern economic development for those First Nations that are in the Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations.

Some of the key objectives of the project included the following:

- Facilitate working relationships among all First Nations, municipal, provincial, federal and business leaders within northern BC;
- Establish the basis for long term economic growth for the region, in the context of and with linkages to the larger provincial national and global economies;
- Develop mechanisms that will enable First Nation, business and local government leaders to work more effectively together in achieving economic results; and
- Research and define the mechanisms and tools for attracting investment capital into the region.

The first two forums “Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality” met the objectives noted and were most important because this was the first time in the region where both First Nations and non First Nations came together focusing on economic development for the whole region. Some specific outcomes were as follows:

- There is a growing realization people in the Northwest have to work together for economic progress;
- There is the recognition business partnerships have a lot of potential benefits for all in the North;
- There is strength in working together rather than going in separate directions;
- Informal networks were established, strengthened and new ones created;
- Initial groundwork was established for more formalized working relationships between First Nations and local governments;
- Formal networks between all the agencies supporting the forums and conferences were strengthened and extended;
- Certain business leaders and First Nations had initial discussions about certain business prospects and possibilities; and
- First Nations are slowly getting more involved economic activities of the region their participation is sought by others.

The last conference “Attracting and Accessing Investment Capital in Northern BC” also extended most of the outcomes noted above but focused on the possibilities, difficulties and processes necessary to attract investment capital to the region. It was clear that it would take a determined regional approach to attract investors here. Central to this will be the development of an investment climate that is exemplified by cooperation, trust and defined regional objectives.

Recommendations

Specific conclusions and recommendations included the following:

- Consider work, effort and good will is needed to create mechanisms for economic growth in the North;
- We need to trust ‘ourselves’ enough to help ‘each other’;
- We need to collaborate and agree on a ‘vision’ or objective for the North;
- We need to develop the formal mechanisms required to truly work together and build the economy of the North;
- We need to deliver our own message to government and gain their support – not their leadership – their support;
- Industry and government have to reach further to develop “true partnerships” with First Nations and vice versa; and
- We need to develop a vision and a work plan with realistic time lines and accomplish planned steps in order to reach our goals

V. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Please see attached Financial Statements for all three Forums from April 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004 (*Appendix 1*)

In kind donations and contributions/partnerships include:

1. Hawkair Airlines reduced fare rates for speakers and participant for June Forums
2. CANFOR Contribution of \$1500 for our June Forums
3. 16/37 Community Futures Partnership/Contribution of \$11000.00 for October Conference
4. Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development \$5000.00 towards October Conference Expenses
5. Northern Savings Credit Union \$887.27 towards October Conference Expenses

VI. ATTACHMENTS

**Please visit our website at www.nwtgroup.com for overview and report of all NWTT forums and conferences held over the past year; this site includes a picture gallery from our June forums “Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality”

- Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality Western Forum Agenda (Appendix 2)
- Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality Eastern Forum Agenda (Appendix 2)
- Attracting and Accessing Investment Capital in Northern BC Conference Agenda (Appendix 2)
- Evaluation Summary for all three forums (Appendix 4)