

March 16, 2006

Our File: 6410.44

Regional Community to Community Forum Program
Attention: Joanne Gauci
c/o Union of BC Municipalities
Richmond, BC
V6X 2W9
Email jgauci@civicnet.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Gauci

We wish to inform you that we have completed our first Community to Community meeting with the local Penticton Indian Band. This meeting took place on March 15, 2006 in Penticton. The purpose of this meeting was to begin the process of meaningful dialogue and to understand the issues, concerns and opportunities for our respective communities. This first meeting facilitated by a respected member of the Penticton Indian Band gave the RDOS some basic information to understand the First Nations culture to foster a better working relationship with local bands.

As proposed in our original submission to UBCM further sessions will address the relationship with the local bands as well as the sharing of information with band leadership and the RDOS on how each operates to provide some basic understanding each party's organization.

We still propose a joint session bringing both communities together to build upon our relationship and process on things that have mutual value to both communities.

Objectives

- To inform RDOS the City of Penticton staff and local elected officials on issues related to developing an understanding of working relationships with Aboriginal people in the South Okanagan.
- To educate RDOS and City of Penticton staff and local elected officials on proper protocol in working with local Indian bands.
- To foster an understanding on issues and relations in developing a working relationship
- To set the framework for further discussions and meetings
- To begin dialogue in developing a trusting environment to establish agreements on future goals and priorities at the regional scale that commits the regional district, affected municipalities and First Nations into a course of action to meet common social, economic and environmental objectives.
- To introduce and gain support of the First Nations communities in the RGS process in the South Okanagan.
- To develop a communication structure that fosters cooperation and agreement on developing the South Okanagan.

Summary of Discussions

The following is an outline of our discussions which focused on two core areas of awareness relevant to the RDOS audience.

TITLE: Understanding Neighbours: A session on raising awareness of First Nations socio-political issues in the community.

A: Okanagan Bands: A historical and Contemporary Overview

B: Current Relevant Issues.

Meeting Outline and agenda:

1. 30 minutes: A short warm up exercise 10 question exam.
2. 15-20 minutes: Presentation on pre-contact Okanagan.
3. 45 minutes: Historical timeline presentation of significant events leading up to the current situation of BC and the Land Question.
4. break (15 minutes)
5. 1 hour; Current Issues:
6. The BNA and the Canada Act-Section 35
7. The Delgamuuk and other significant legal decisions
8. Aboriginal Title and Rights
9. BC and "Accommodation".
10. How to work with the Band.

30 minutes: Questions/comments

Documents Tabled

1. Sliammon First Nations Community Accord
2. United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Article 44 & 45
3. The Delgamuukw/Gisday'wa National Process – Overview of the Delgamuukw Decision
4. Part II – Rights of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada
5. Copy of the Indian Act
6. A brief history of Aboriginal relations
7. Glossary of Terms – Terms used in Aboriginal Issues
8. Okanagan History – Royal Proclamation 1871
9. Original People – Okanagan History p 1 -16
10. A test on understanding Neighbours and relationship building survey

Recommendations and Next Steps

RDOS staff and elected officials will be making presentations to chief and council to inform local bands on what the RDOS is and what it does in the region. This session will be in presentation format with a question and answer session following the presentation.

The final session will involve a joint meeting with bands and council to discuss mutually beneficial working relationships for the betterment of the region and both parties. As a side note the RDOS is now working with both bands to establish civic addresses for band members for the 911 system and the RDOS GIS system. This relationship means that emergency planning and responses will be timelier in the event of an emergency on band land. In addition it has been agreed that the RDOS will assist both bands in the assisting and capacity development of GIS system services with local band administration.

Participants

1. Tracey Batten - Director of Administrative Services - RDOS
2. Cameron Baughen – Engineering Services RDOS
3. Tim Bouwmeester - Manager GIS RDOS
4. Dan Ashton Councillor City of Penticton

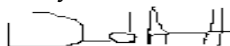
5. Kelly Chatterson – GIS Tech RDOS
6. Cathy Cowan – Administrative Assistant RDOS
7. Patty Derkach – Manager Human Resources RDOS
8. Monty Horton – Planner RDOS
9. Janice Johnson – Air Quality Coordinator
10. Andrea Pickard – Regional Growth Strategy RDOS
11. Andrew Reeder – Engineering Service Manager RDOS
12. Susanne Theurer – Planning and Building Manger RDOS
13. Marty Willfong – Director of Development Services RDOS
14. Caroline Grewcutt – Human Resources
15. David Arsenault – Regional Growth Strategy
16. Cathy Ingram City of Penticton
17. Donna Butler – City of Penticton, Planner
18. Barry Read - City of Penticton, Manager of Recreation Services
19. Jeannette Armstrong – Executive Director, En’owkin Centre Okanagan Nation Alliance
20. Jeanine Terbasket – LLB En’owkin Centre
21. Peter ORD – En’owkin Centre

1. Budget

Lunch for 21 people @ \$10.00 X 1 meeting	\$208.65
Room rental \$100.00 X 1	\$100.00
Facilitation Services/project consultant	\$1500.00
Material and supplies – printing, photocopying displays	\$200.00
A/V equipment Computer, LCD unit Screen	\$200.00
Preparation of meeting agenda’s planning and reports \$250.00	
Final Report production	\$150.00
Administration	\$1000.00
Contingency	\$0.00
TOTAL	<u>\$3,608.65</u>
Total Funding requested @50%	<u>\$1,804.33</u>
Money received from UBCM	\$2800.00
Money returned to UBCM (\$995.67)	

We look forward to a informing you of the outcomes of other meetings planned in our region. Please feel free to call me at (250) 490-4137, or toll free at 1-877-610-3737.

Sincerely,



David H. Arsenault M.B.A
Regional Growth Strategy Coordinator

