SECHELT INDIAN BAND
SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM REPORT

SECHELT, BC, SEPTEMBER 18 & 19, 2003

Sample comment from Forum Participant:

“Thank you for the opportunity to partake in the Forum at Sechelt. The opportunity to meet many First Nations people and experience their culture and history was a great experience which greatly benefits our long journey of learning and understanding of our two cultures. We are different but we share so many commonalities. We need one another to achieve success in our community.”
Rick Beauchamp, District of West Vancouver

SUMMARY

The Community to Community Forum achieved its objectives and intended results as stipulated in the funding proposal. (Copy Attached as Appendix A). A full agenda (Appendix B), led to valuable exchanges of ideas and information. Some of the most noteworthy achievements of the forum were:

- Current challenges: Gaining a first hand understanding of common and unique challenges.
- Putting “faces to names”: The forum provided an opportunity for participants to meet one another face to face. This fosters better relationships and makes it easier for future communications.
- Time Out to Listen: Presentations provided first hand information about what the various organizations are working on and the challenges they face. Although many of the participating groups, organizations and governments share common challenges, issues and mandates, forums like these provide the “time out” necessary to actually stop and listen to one another in terms of gaining updates and better perspectives on current priorities.
- Establishing common ground: The presentations highlighted that many of the goals and challenges were shared by all.
- History: A better understanding of the historical context of the Sechelt First Nations, the sense of pride, achievement and history. Delegates found this extremely interesting and worthwhile.
- Fostering Positive Relationships: The opportunity to share food and laugh together fostered a more relaxed environment which in turn facilitates the resolution of some of the tougher issues to be addressed.
- Fostering Continued Dialogue: The sessions provided an opportunity to start and continue dialogue on the shared challenges.
- Sharing ideas, information and resources: The forum created a positive base for continued communication, collaboration and sharing of resources.
ATTENDANCE

Approximately one hundred people attended the dinner and accord signing (September 18, 2003).

Approximately 65 people attended the one-day forum with representation from most sectors (September 19, 2003).

Registration list and contact information attached Appendix C.

SUMMARY OF FORUM EVENTS AND SESSIONS

September 18, 2003 Dinner and Entertainment

The Sechelt Indian Band hosted a gala dinner and entertainment at the Sechelt Indian Band Hall with approximately 100 people in attendance. The food and entertainment were excellent. A Watershed Accord was signed by the Sechelt Indian Band and the Sunshine Coast Regional District, formally committing to work together to achieve shared management of the Watersheds within the traditional territory of the Sechelt Indian Band (Appendix D).

First Nations comedian, DerRic Starlight, generated a great deal of laughter and “broke the ice”. One of the highlights was watching former Premier Mr. Mike Harcourt beat the drum for a group of “from the crowd” men trying to learn how to dance First Nations style. Chief Feschuk welcomed all to the forum noting the valuable role these types of events have in fostering better understanding and relationships by opening the doors to ongoing dialogue.
Welcome: SIB Chief Gary Feschuk welcomed all delegates to the Longhouse. He noted that “we are all neighbours” and that the purpose of the forum was to discuss common issues and encourage continued open dialogue to address these issues and challenges faced by all. He then welcomed each of the Elders in their positions of respect and asked them to commence the forum with a traditional prayer. This was followed by a First Nations Song.

Sunshine Coast Regional District Chair, Ed Steeves also welcomed everyone and invited all in attendance to introduce themselves and their respective roles. Letters of regret were read by Mr. Steeves from Premier Campbell, Attorney General Geoff Plant and Minister George Abbott, (copies attached in Appendix E).

Chief Feschuk invited everyone to “move forward” by going back to the grass roots of their communities for reconciliation. He encouraged everyone to follow in the footsteps of great leaders and develop a shared future by having governments, industry and first nations “sit at the table” as equals. He noted that we live in an area of abundant resources that must be shared and that we need to develop a process of how we can all move forward.

History of the Sechelt

Jamie Dixon (Sechelt Indian Band) presented a pictorial slide show of the History of the Sechelt. This provided valuable insights into the geography and socio-cultural context of the Sechelt Indian Band lands.

Sechelt Indian Band/Sechelt Indian Government District

Brian Woodward, Administrator for the Sechelt Indian Government District (SIGD) and Sechelt Indian Band (SIB) presented an overview of the distinctions between the two. This was a valuable session since many delegates were perhaps only vaguely aware of the distinctions and structure of these two governing elements.

Sid Quinn, SIB Resource Manager and John Pritchard, SIB Research, Anthropology provided an anthropological and archaeological review of the Sechelt territory. The purpose of these presentations was to emphasize how and why certain potential conflicts have arisen between development and the desire to preserve SIB history.

Panel Presentations:

Rose Moon, Facilitator, introduced the panel portion of the forum where information would be provided relevant to the forestry, social and educational contexts.

Panel #1 – Forestry Initiatives

Sid Quinn, SIB Resource Manager: Mr. Quinn provided an overview of the current projects being undertaken by the band.
Marc Neufeld, Mill Manager, Tsain-Ko Forest Products: Mr. Neufeld presented highlights of the value added projects being undertaken by the mill which had opened on July 19, 2003. The 2000 square foot building is located on 10 acres of property located in the SIB Industrial Park. The lumber for the value-added mill is sourced from Delta Cedar Products. The lumber is then remanufactured into fence panels. The mill has two lattice stations, an assembly area, component station and a new multi-rip and jump saw to re-mill some of the SIB “fall-down” lumber. The mill has 6 full time band member employees. Markets for the finished products include Gibsons Building Supply, Curtis Lumber and Sunbury Cedar, who distribute the panels internationally. Spin-off benefits to the community include trucking service providers, wood disposal, maintenance, fuel purchases, mill supplies and employment for tradesmen. Future plans include expansion into cedar product lines including furniture, planters, gazebos and arbors.

Ray Parfitt, Planner, District of Sechelt: Mr. Parfitt noted that SIB and the District of Sechelt are pursuing the development of a “Community Forest” concept on the Coast. The objectives would include management for timber production, silviculture, recreation, and value-added manufacturing. This would help provide labour and educational opportunities for a skilled forestry labour force and create opportunities for public input, information and education. A joint committee (SIB and District of Sechelt) has been established to assess and review past pilot projects a number of which are due to expire in the next few years. Provincial Government consultation has taken place and will continue with Ministry staff making themselves available for ongoing collaboration. Mr. Parfitt noted the importance of all levels of local and provincial government communicating with one another and collaborating on these various projects of mutual interest and benefit.

Brian Hawrys, Operations Manager, Sunshine Coast Forest District: Mr. Hawrys discussed the need for more economic opportunities in the forestry sector with access to timber as well as revenue sharing with First Nations. He noted the need for negotiations to accommodate agreements. He discussed the concept of Community Based Forest Management with the potential of doubling timber available to community based tenures adding that consultation would be needed with those currently involved with woodlots and community forests. Pricing systems were discussed highlighting some of the recent changes by government. He concluded with comments on the timber reallocation process. Details are available from Mr. Hawrys.

Panel #2 – Education Initiatives

Greg Russell, Trustee, School District #46: Mr. Russell was pleased to address the forum noting that advances were being made in addressing educational challenges common to everyone in the community. The School District has studied many of the challenges and has made changes accordingly to help address these.

Kerry Mahlman, Principal, District Aboriginal Education Programs and Services & District Partnerships: Ms. Mahlman addressed the forum noting that her position had recently been established out of a need to facilitate and enhance the success of First Nations Sunshine Coast residents who were not SIB members or who were not living on band lands. She noted that many strategies were being used to cultivate a climate of progress, consultation and success to assist these individuals, many of whom had relocated from other areas and therefore did not have the same “community support”
network as SIB members may have. She emphasized the commitment on behalf of the school board for continued progress and success within the First Nations educational community.

Lori Dixon, Trustee, School District No. 46: Ms. Dixon acknowledged the challenges of past history and the resulting abysmal graduation rates for aboriginal students. She noted that the costs of these failures were born by all of society. Many of the young people who did not graduate faced a future of low paying “make work” projects and ended up playing the game of going back and forth from E.I. to welfare living. Non-graduates often find themselves going to Adult Basic Education programs for three or four years and ending up only starting a career at age thirty if successful whereby their graduating counterparts were successfully entering careers up to ten years earlier. She noted that success in the economic and social realms is closely linked to educational success. Successful people become participatory rather than dependent citizens. Ms. Dixon noted that the School District is enhancing its accountability through a process of reporting, monitoring and delivering through a consultative process and programs that address issues concerning aboriginal success. She informed delegates that the School district and the SIB are meeting regularly working towards an agreement that will address the Band’s concerns and aspirations for success of SIB and non-SIB aboriginal students on the Coast. She noted the importance of Kerry Mahlman’s position in the partnering process to work towards student success. In conclusion she emphasized the need for accountability of the public dollars that had been targeted for aboriginal student success by monitoring and reporting results of these programs. She encouraged the continuation of the consultative process to meet common goals in striving for the best for the community and its members.

Panel #3 – Social Issues

Nicholas Simons, Director, Health and Social Development, SIB: Mr. Simons addressed the forum noting that the social challenges and concerns of the SIB were really concerns of everyone in the community. He underscored the need for programs and resources to assist those who are in need so they can become fully functional and integrated members of society. The costs to society in the long run, are much higher than providing the much need resources to prevent some of the long term results of not addressing social issues such as unemployment, substance abuse, housing, education and mental well being. He encouraged ongoing dialogue and the formulation of concrete strategies to tackle these widespread issues that have an impact on the community as a whole and not just the SIB.
S/Sgt. Brad Zalys, RCMP: S/Sgt. Zalys reiterated some of Mr. Simons comments. He added that resources and the lack thereof are problematic for everyone. The RCMP local detachment is addressing many of the challenges it faces. In particular he noted the appointment of one of their officers, Constable Kelly Allan to the role of First Nations Policing Officer. He spoke of the need for continued dialogue between all the community groups involved in these social challenges and concerns.

**Harold Long, MLA**

After the lunch session, Harold Long, MLA addressed the group noting his support of these types of forums that are so valuable in fostering better relationships through education and understanding of both the unique and common issues faced by the community. He emphasized the importance of moving forward to address and resolve outstanding items so the community could thrive and prosper.

**Session # 4: Planning and Development/Draft Archaeological Sites Pamphlet**

John Pritchard, SIB Researcher, Anthropology: Mr. Pritchard presented an overview of the current referral process in place. He suggested changes for a more effective protocol for land use and planning that would address the conflicts and problems that are now being faced by the SIB in the referral process. The current process is time consuming and in many instances does not reflect a true consultative process in terms of how SIB feels about the various development proposals that have been referred to the SIB for comments. Time frames were often inadequate and the process was felt to fall far short of addressing concerns.

Mr. Peter Merchant, Archaeologist for SIB: Mr. Merchant provided a slide presentation that highlighted the need for a better referral process given the rich archaeological findings being made on a regular basis by the SIB. A draft brochure was presented that represents a proto-type for a new and more effective referral/consultation process.

**Delegate Discussions**

The latter portion of the afternoon was devoted to informal “break out” group discussion surrounding social, educational and forestry challenges. As part of the dialogue, Mr. Harcourt was invited to share some comments with the forum delegates.

**Mike Harcourt, Federal Government Appointee to the BC Treaty Commission:**

Mr. Harcourt stated that this type of dialogue at this community level is where and what will make the “new relationship” occur in BC. This kind of activity will mutually benefit everyone. Mr. Harcourt noted that his new position is that of “Federal Treaty Advisor for BC.”. He emphasized that as aboriginal communities move to self government there are concerns about long standing problems and this type of forum is the BC way to promote dialogue between government and First Nations. Mr. Harcourt noted he would be at the UBCM next week where he planned to share the First Nations successes discussed at this forum and will encourage other municipalities to organize this type of session. He thanked everyone for a great two days and looks forward to returning.
Delegates formed discussion groups and were presented with three questions to discuss. The small group discussion results were then shared with the group as a whole.

**EDUCATION** What can be done to enhance educational opportunities and success in primary, secondary and post-secondary education? What measures of success should be used?

**Comments**

- Raise levels of expectations for First Nations
- Improve inter-governmental network and communication
- Change some of the priorities of the present school system
- More flexible school timetable to learn real-world information
- Hands on learning – get students outdoors
- Determine what is success
- Smaller classes
- More opportunity for one on one
- Focus on mentorship opportunities
- Do real things that contribute to the community
- Acknowledge culture in curriculum/make room for First Nations language classes
- Highschool fieldtrips (grades 11 and 12)
- Focus on 3Rs
- Consultative process with parents, students, educators
- Community and School District partnerships
- Improve urban adaptation skills to meet needs of future

**FORESTRY** Given the often conflicting community interests and values, how can more economic opportunities be created in the Forestry Sector?

**Comments**

- Develop a co-op for secondary manufacturing
- Identify wood supply markets, finished products
- Manage identified forest area sustainability, therefore market eco certified wood – niche markets command higher prices
- Opportunities for eco-tourism based in old growth forest
- Encourage non-timber resources extraction
- More local management, ownership, industry
- Using mill waste more efficiently
- Better access to wood for local manufacturers
- Stop raw log exports
- Develop uses for new types of wood, e.g. alder
- Must achieve compatibility between forestry, community values, silviculture, value-added and ancillary jobs
- Add unique branding with aboriginal design incorporated into manufactured products (not generic but specialty products)
- More onsite milling from logging to finished product – all done on the coast
- Joint ventures could be established with current tenure-holder (particularly regarding 20% clawback), land claims and treaty negotiations
• Building up entrepreneurial strength in aboriginal community, i.e. BCIT program; eco/culture tourism
• Utilization of whole log (avoid wastage), i.e. chips, debarking, common shared equipment

**SOCIAL**

Given current challenges in sustaining social services and community policing, how can we address social issues to help ensure safe and healthy communities? What measures of success should be used?

**Comments**

• Define the social issues, who, what where, when, why
• Mentoring programs for youth – role models, Big Brothers/Sisters, parenting skills
• Non sporting programs – how to capture those who don’t want to do anything?
• Recreation facilities – youth programs, sports
• Housing – local government affordable housing strategies (CMHC, DIAMD, BC Housing, BC Native Housing)
• Land designated for housing in OCP zonings
• Community direction/leadership in decision making
• Incentive strategies- density/bonuses, DCC’s reduction, special development areas, partnerships, comprehensive development
• NGO’s – role of governments in future
• Public education – inform the people regarding the issues, ask for their ideas, explain why they must do these things
• Continue the talk
• Limited resources and challenges
• Are there differences in communities – clusters or one big community
• Can additional resources solve all problems
• On going group consultation/collaboration – avoid duplication, maximize resources
• Community support group – mentors
• People don’t want to be shuffled from department to department/ person to person – one stop shopping – take by hand (holistic)
• Zero base assessment of social needs by the community – what works, what doesn’t, what needs fixing

**Farewell Address**

Chief Garry Feschuk and Ed Steeves, SCRD Chair thanked everyone for attending. They encouraged delegates to continue the process of communication to exchange ideas and information in the quest to forge solutions and strategies to address the challenges identified. Chief Feschuk noted that the process is one of continuous discussion at an open table with full representation from those involved in the issues. He emphasized that much work remained to be done and that traditionally at a longhouse gathering, the watches are thrown away and the sessions continue until the work is done.
Delegate Comments: All delegates were invited to complete a “comments sheet” to provide feedback about the Forum. The comments are contained in Appendix F.

Media: Heather Jeal, from the Coast Reporter, attended and actively participated in the forum. The subsequent newspaper article is attached as Appendix G.
APPENDIX A:  
COPY OF ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

PROPOSAL FOR A REGIONAL COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FORUM:

1. DESCRIPTION

The Sunshine Coast Regional District and the Sechelt First Nation are looking to provide an opportunity to meet with their neighbouring First Nations and local governments to exchange information and to discuss goals and common concerns of all jurisdictions.

Objectives include:

- Educating and informing the participating governments about current issues in relationships between the First Nations and local governments beyond the confines of our immediate community;
- Strengthening relationships and fostering future co-operative action, by building stronger links between First Nations and local governments at the political and administrative/staff level;
- First Nations Elders invited to speak to the forum in order to provide historical and cultural context;
- Discussion of community issues like employment opportunities including forestry and options for partnerships with businesses. Other community issues are education and social issues;
- To obtain perspectives on self-governance by First Nations.

2. PARTICIPANTS (tentative)

Sunshine Coast Regional District
Sechelt First Nation / Sechelt Indian Government District
Sechelt Elders
Sechelt Indian Government District Advisory Council
District of Sechelt
Town of Gibsons
Squamish Lillooet Regional District
Squamish First Nation
Squamish Elders
District of Squamish
Village of Lions Bay
GVRD Electoral Area “C”
City of West Vancouver
Island Municipality of Bowen Island
Sliammon First Nation
Sliammon Elders
Powell River Regional District
District of Powell River
Tsleil-Waututh Nation (Burrard Indian Band)
Tseil-Waututh Elders
City of North Vancouver
District of North Vancouver
Islands Trust
Ralph Drew, Chair of Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee
Hon. Geoff Plant, Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations
Premier Gordon Campbell
Harold Long, MLA
John Watson, Regional Director for INAC
John Ellis, Assistant
3. DATE

September 18th (PM) and 19th, 2003 have been set as tentative dates for this forum.

4. INTENDED PRODUCT

Program includes a kick-off supper at the Sechelt Indian Band Hall for fellowship, cultural program and networking. Program that evening is to be provided by the Sechelt Indian Band.

The following day will include a facilitated workshop held in the Sechelt’s Longhouse. The program will include presentations and discussions of current issues between local government and First Nations. A round table discussion of opportunities, constraints and community goals will be conducted. There will also be sufficient time for informal discussions and fellowship during the luncheon break.

Achievements and next steps will be documented in a final report.

5. BUDGET

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<tr>
<td>Dinner for 100 people at $30/person (includes partners)</td>
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<td>Sechelt Band Hall rental for dinner</td>
<td>500</td>
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<td>Longhouse rental for following day</td>
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<td>Lunch for 75 people at $18/person</td>
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<td>Facilitation Services</td>
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<td>Preparation of materials- printing costs for information brochures</td>
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<td>Audio equipment rental</td>
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<td>Final report production</td>
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**TOTAL**                                                   **8,700**

**TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED (50%)**                          **$4,350**

(Note: $4,350 to be provided by the local community and governments either in kind or by cash donation.)
### APPENDIX B: FORUM AGENDA

Community to Community Forum Agenda

“An opportunity to meet with our neighbouring First Nations and local governments.”

**Presented by The Sechelt First Nation and The Sunshine Coast Regional District**

Project Funding Provided By Senior Governments through UBCM

### ACTIVITIES AGENDA

**Friday, September 19 - Sechelt Indian Band Longhouse**

*(5488 Monkey Tree Lane, Sechelt, BC)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Resource person/details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 8:50</td>
<td>Coffee/Registration</td>
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| 9:00 - 9:15 | Welcome to Longhouse  
Acknowledgement of Elders  
Song  
Welcoming Prayer | Chief Garry Feschuk                                       |
| 9:15 - 9:30 | Introductions to the day                                      | SCRD Chair Ed Steeves                                 |
| 9:30 - 10:00 | History of the Sechelt                                       | Chief Garry Feschuk and Sechelt Elders               |
| 10:00 - 10:25 | Distinctions between Sechelt Indian  
Band and Sechelt Indian Government  
District | Sid Quinn - SIB Resource Manager  
John Pritchard – SIB Research, Anthropology  
Councillor Stan Dixon, SIB               |
| 10:25 - 10:40 | Coffee                                                       |                                                     |
| 10:45 - 10:50 | Introductions of Panel                                       | Rose Moon – Facilitator                              |
| 10:50 - 11:10 | Panel # 1 - Forestry Initiatives                             | Sid Quinn, SIB Resource Manager  
Marc Neufeld, Tsain-Ko Forest Products  
Mill Manager  
Ray Parfitt, District of Sechelt Planner  
Brian Hawrys, Operations Manager, Sunshine Coast Forest District |
| 11:10 - 11:25 | Panel # 2 - Education Initiatives                           | Greg Russell, Trustee, School District No. 46  
Kerry Mahlman, Principal, District Aboriginal Education Programs and Services and District Partnerships  
Lori Dixon, Trustee, School District No. 46 |
| 11:25 - 11:35 | Panel # 3 - Social Issues                                    | Nicholas Simons, Director, Health and Social Development, SIB  
Brad Zalys, Staff Sargeant, RCMP |
| 11:35 - 12:00 | Panel # 4 – Planning & Development  
Draft Archaeological Sites Pamphlet | Chief Garry Feschuk  
Sid Quinn, SIB Resource Manager  
John Pritchard, SIB Researcher – Anthropology  
Peter Merchant, Archaeologist |
<p>| 12:00 - 1:00 | Buffet style lunch with Keynote Speaker                      | Vice Chief of Assembly of First Nations, B.C. Region, Vice Chief Satsan (Herb George) |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:10 - 2:25</td>
<td>Delegate Discussion Forum</td>
<td>Question # 1 - Forestry Context: Given the often conflicting community interests and values, how can more economic opportunities be created in the Forestry Sector?</td>
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<td>Question # 2 - Social Context: Given current challenges in sustaining social services and community policing, how can we address social issues to help ensure safe and healthy communities? e.g. limited resources to meet demands in areas like substance abuse, crime, housing, mental health</td>
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<td>Question # 3 - Educational Context: Part A: What can be done to enhance educational opportunities and success in primary, secondary and post-secondary education? Part B: What measures of success should be used?</td>
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<td>2:25 - 2:40</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>Delegates</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 - 3:35</td>
<td>Summaries - Group leaders to highlight responses to the questions</td>
<td>Delegates</td>
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<td>3:35 - 3:45</td>
<td>Farewell comments and thanks</td>
<td>Chief Garry Feschuk and SCRD Chair Ed Steeves</td>
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<td>3:45 - 4:00</td>
<td>Informal farewells &amp; Discussions</td>
<td>Note: Those needing to leave for other commitments should feel free to depart when necessary. Those wanting to remain beyond the formal schedule to engage in further discussions have been welcomed to do so by the Sechelt Nation Host.</td>
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APPENDIX D:
WATERSHED ACCORD

WATERSHED ACCORD
between
SECHELT INDIAN BAND
and
SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

GIVEN THAT:

A. The Chapman/Grey Creek Watersheds (the "Watersheds") are situated within and form part of the traditional territory of the Sechelt Indian Band (the "Band");

B. The Watersheds are situated within the Sunshine Coast Regional District ("SCRD") which has authority to provide the service of potable water to the residents of the SCRD; and

C. The Band and the SCRD have a mutual interest in improving and maintaining the safety and quality of their potable water supply and in jointly assuming the responsibility and authority for the attaining and maintaining of the highest possible safety and quality standards for their potable water supply.

WE, the Sechelt Indian Band and the Sunshine Coast Regional District jointly resolve and agree as follows:

1. We shall negotiate the terms of an agreement between the Band and the SCRD;
   (a) for the sharing of responsibility and the decision-making processes in respect of the shared management of the Watersheds, and
   (b) for the sharing of the costs, expenses and liabilities arising from the shared management of the Watersheds;

   in accordance with a decision making framework to be determined by the parties.

2. If we have not completed the negotiations of and entered into the Agreement referred to in paragraph 1 above within 90 days after the execution of this Accord, this Accord shall terminate and neither of us shall have any obligation to the other under the Accord unless, on or before the date 90 days after the execution of this Accord, we mutually agree to extend the time for the completion of the Agreement.

3. Upon the completion of the Agreement referred to in paragraph 1 above, we shall petition the Province of British Columbia for the assumption by the parties of a shared management framework for the Watersheds, which management will include, without limitation;
   (a) the right and authority to review all applications for the approval of any industrial, commercial, recreational or residential development or activity within the Watersheds,
   (b) the right and authority to approve with conditions or disapprove applications for any development or activity that may adversely affect or impact the safety and quality of the potable water supply from the Watersheds,
(c) the right and authority to disallow any activity within the Watersheds that may adversely affect or impact the safety and quality of the potable water supply from the Watersheds, and

(d) the power to prosecute offenders of the laws of the Band and the bylaws of the SCRD enacted to give effect to the foregoing, which laws and bylaws shall be enacted in consultation between the Band and the SCRD.

4. This Accord is without prejudice to the aboriginal and treaty rights of the Band and its rights under section 91(24) of the Constitution Act 1867 and section 35 of the Constitution Act 1982 and shall not be construed so as to abrogate or derogate from any aboriginal or treaty rights of the Band or the members of the Band, or any other aboriginal people of Canada.

5. This Accord is also without prejudice to the powers, duties and functions of the SCRD under the Local Government Act (British Columbia) or any subsequent legislation in relation to the watershed lands including, without limitation, the jurisdiction of the SCRD over the provision of potable water to the residents of the SCRD.

EXECUTED this 18th day of September, 2003.
### SECHELT INDIAN BAND

Per:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief Garry Feschuk</td>
<td>Director, Sechelt Indian Government District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Councillor Marita Paul-Franke</td>
<td>Director, Electoral Area D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Rick August</td>
<td>Director, Sunshine Coast Regional District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Councillor Stan Dixon</td>
<td>Director, Sunshine Coast Regional District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Ben Pierre, Jr.</td>
<td>Director, Sunshine Coast Regional District</td>
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### SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

Per:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ed Steeves, Chair</td>
<td>Director, District of Sechelt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrian Belshaw, Vice Chair</td>
<td>Director, Electoral Area D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Garry Feschuk</td>
<td>Director, Sechelt Indian Government District</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Rees</td>
<td>Director, Electoral Area A</td>
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<td>John Marian</td>
<td>Director, Electoral Area B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celia Fisher</td>
<td>Director, Electoral Area E</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barry Janyk</td>
<td>Director, Town of Gibsons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bernie Mulligan</td>
<td>Director, Electoral Area F</td>
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APPENDIX E: OFFICIAL LETTERS OF WELCOME

As the Minister responsible for Community, Aboriginal and Women’s Services, I want to thank the Sechelt First Nation and the Sunshine Coast Regional District for organizing this forum. One of our goals as a ministry is to build strong, healthy communities and this forum is a perfect venue on which to expand on. By working together with local governments we can begin constructive dialogue to address the challenges and opportunities for all Aboriginal people.

As British Columbians, we take special pride in our Province’s diverse Aboriginal heritage. The cultural and linguistic traditions demonstrate the uniqueness and strength of the Metis, Inuit and First Nations people in the Province. We recognize that Aboriginal people today face tremendous challenges in society and we must work together to overcome these.

I feel privileged to be part of a ministry that focuses on Aboriginal issues and am proud of the work we do through the Aboriginal Directorate. Programs such as the First Citizen’s Fund, Aboriginal Youth First and employment initiatives give us the chance to work with Aboriginal people to find solutions to these vital issues.

The Premier, my cabinet colleagues and I are committed to creating a mechanism for all Aboriginal people to communicate with Government about their priorities and ideas to improve their quality of life and the health of their communities. This forum and the First Nations Summit in Vancouver this week provides that opportunity. As concerned members of your communities, I appreciate your participation.

Today, you will hear perspectives on the important aspects of healthy communities. In the spirit of an open dialogue, I urge you to think about what things are important to you and your communities and how we can work together to improve the well-being of Aboriginal people.

Thank you, again to both the Sechelt First Nation and the Sunshine Coast Regional District. Your input will be of immeasurable value in preparing for future discussions and in working toward an improved quality of life for Aboriginal people in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

George Abbott
Minister
September 3, 2003

Chief Garry Feschuk, Sechelt First Nation and
Ed Steeves, Sunshine Coast Regional District Chair
5477 Wharf Road
Box 800
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

Dear Chief Feschuk and Mr. Steeves:

Thank you for the invitation to attend and speak at the Community to Community forum
you are holding on Thursday, September 18 and Friday, September 19, 2003, in Sechelt.

I believe it is important to keep dialogue going and as Government we are committed to
working with the aboriginal communities to better understand their concerns. We know a
lot of work has already been done and all of us want to build on that constructively and
effectively on behalf of all British Columbians. I am very pleased that my colleague,
Harold Long, MLA for Powell River-Sunshine Coast, will be attending your forum.
Unfortunately, as I am previously scheduled with other commitments, I am not able to
join you. Please extend my very best wishes to all those who will be with you at the
important community event.

Thank you again for your kind invitation.

Sincerely,

GORDON CAMPBELL
Premier

pc: Harold Long, MLA
SEP 16 2003

Chief Garry Feschuk
Sechelt First Nation
PO Box 740
5555 Sunshine Coast Highway
Sechelt BC V0N 3A0

Ed Steeves
SCRD Chair
Sunshine Coast Regional District
PO Box 800, 5477 Wharf Road
Sechelt BC V0N 3A0

Dear Chief Garry Feschuk and Ed Steeves:

On behalf of myself and my colleagues, I wish to extend a warm greeting to you and all members of the Sechelt First Nation and Sunshine Coast Regional District, as well as to other participating groups and individuals, as you embark on a Community to Community Forum in Sechelt. Please accept my sincere regrets that I am unable to attend due to prior commitments.

Forums such as this, in which community members congregate together in a respectful and open manner to discuss current issues between local government and First Nations, are of tremendous value to all participants. I am sure the presentations and discussions will be productive. It is clear that the Sechelt First Nation and Sunshine Coast Regional District have taken a significant initiative in hosting this meeting.

Our province is made up of many diverse communities, and every step toward open communication and resolution of issues is a step forward for the province as a whole. I wish you the best as you work to achieve mutually beneficial goals.

Geoff Plant
Attorney General and
Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations
## APPENDIX F:
FORUM DELEGATE COMMENTS

### SYNOPSIS OF COMMENTS

### Sechelt Indian Band & Sunshine Coast Regional District
Community to Community Forum Comment Card

Your participation in this event is valued. Please take a moment to provide any comments with respect to this forum. We will be completing a report based on the discussions and sessions of this forum. If we have your permission to include your comments or suggestions please provide your name, contact information and signature. If you prefer your comments be anonymous do not complete the lower portion. Thank you.

- Good use of public dollars – more, more, more! (not signed)

- This Community to Community Forum is long overdue. There should be others on the schedule during the next 12 months. The format was good, the topics of discussion are primary for all communities along the Coast. This could be a precedent. (not signed)

- Thank you for the opportunity to partake in the Forum at Sechelt. The opportunity to meet many First Nations people and experience their culture and history was a great experience which greatly benefits our long journey of learning and understanding of our two cultures. We are different but we share so many commonalities. We need one another to achieve success in our community. Rick Beauchamp, District of West Vancouver – 604-925-7003

- An opportunity to: communicate, to share fellowship and culture, to look at co-operative approaches, to position resources for economic/social/environmental gain for the total community, to recognize the work of those who have gone before us, to “go outside the box’ and move away from traditional methods and procedures to achieve new ends. Wayne Quinn, Islands Trust, 250-405-5165

- I was particularly enthralled by the introduction session/slide show on the Sechelt Nation history and by the talk about the archaeological heritage. It is very important to us as neighbours to have a better understanding of our communities especially the Sechelt and Squamish Nations on whose traditional territories we all live. I hope we are able to continue meeting like this and getting to know each other on a personal level. Events where we can meet and talk face to face, work together and just get to know each other personally would be most beneficial. I hope that we can also encourage more participation from the Squamish and Sliammon people. Thank you very much for initiating this dialogue and greater community understanding! Thank you to the provincial government for providing the funding. Andrea Goldsmith, Councillor, Town of Gibsons 886-2274

- Very interesting forum. Really enjoyed the background and information of the history of the Sechelts. My only criticism is that the forum was long on background information and somewhat short on solutions. That being said, its understood that this forum is just the first step in the direction of solutions. Alan Blattler, Interfor 604-886-0488

- The forum was very informative and provided an excellent opportunity to bring out many issues. It would also be good to have more feedback from the participants as a whole. We need to continue to communicate with everyone to be successful. Our community can only benefit from good leadership and understandings. Thanks to the SCRD and SIB. Sid Quinn, SIB Resource Manager 604-885-227

- I learned so much today about SIB, the First Nation people’s history and the passions and concerns of
those people. The old photos were great! I appreciated the presence of the elders and the privilege of hearing “shawshishuquam” – (perhaps someone could tell me how to spell this as I’m interested in the 9,000 word dictionary as well.) The panel members all spoke with passion and heart. It was an honour to be a witness to the process of building connections and community. Thank you to SIB, their Elders and Council and the SCRD for hosting this event. Lisa Barrett, Mayor, Bowen Island Municipality 604-947-9234

| • A list of attendees would be valuable. Thanks Sechelt Indian Band and SCRD for organizing and hosting such an opportunity. Jeanie Ferguson, District of West Vancouver 604-926-1121 |
| • Great job! Congratulations to the forum organizers and hosts! I really liked the organization of 1 _ days. It was a good introduction to have an informal meal Thursday night, meet people and hear the talented comedian. The Thursday evening allowed all the participants to make connections before formal speaking/workshops on Friday. I would find it useful to receive a list of all the participants, their organization affiliation and contact information for future followup. The morning was full of presentations which entailed a lot of listening/sitting. Perhaps small group discussions could have been mixed up with the presentation. People generally like to participate. This was a great forum and I really found it beneficial to hear about the specific issues and interests of the Sunshine Coast. Fabulous food – thanks cooks!. The facilities were great. Rose Moon, Facilitator, brought a lot of energy and enthusiasm to her role. She rolled with the many changes to the agenda. Thanks to Sechelt Indian Band for hosting the forum. The archaeological presentation was very interesting and informative. It gave context to the complexities of preserving heritage materials in light of development and increasing populations. (not signed) |
NEWS FEATURE

Talking community: Sechelt Band, local governments face the future

HEATHER JEAL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Billed as "an opportunity to meet with our neighbouring First Nations and local government," the Sunshine Coast's first Community to Community Forum drew policy makers from the North Shore, Lillooet, Squamish and Powell River.

Sechelt Coast MLA Harold Long and former Premier Mike Harcourt, now a member of the B.C. Treaty Commission, were two of the luminaries who joined the gathering at the Sechelt Indian Band Longhouse Sept. 18 and 19.

Forum organizer Ian Harvey echoed the theme of growth through cooperation and commented, "no matter how you split it up, we're still all one community" on the Sunshine Coast. Harvey commended Sechelt Chief Garry Feschuk and Gibsons Mayor Barry Janyk, who championed the forum after attending a similar event in Vancouver.

The forum was paid for half by a grant from the Union of B.C. Municipalities and half by the regional district and Sechelt Indian Band governments.

In his opening remarks, Chief Feschuk said using the longhouse for this event was especially appropriate, as "it is our spiritual home and a place of learning."

"We appreciate people coming into our home and sharing information," said Feschuk. "This forum is beneficial, and we are hopeful it will be one of many. Our only focus now is on how we can move forward as a community and come to an agreement."

Feschuk stressed that the issues to be discussed -- family, education, social issues, and archeological impacts on planning and development -- were "not just First Nations issues, they impact our community as a whole."

Harcourt, who continues to grapple with his recovery from a near-fatal back injury, introduced himself as a "recovering politician."

"Charlie Harold Long, I interrupted the urge to run again," joked Harcourt.

While Harcourt may not be running, he is certainly walking well enough without all of his cast and even participated in a pre-forum powwow dance at the previous evening's watershed event.

"This kind of dialogue is what's going to make change occur," said Harcourt. "This is the B.C. way -- sitting down with local governments, finding out where we are, and facilitating those kinds of discussions to find solutions."

Harcourt said as more First Nations move to self-government and away from being "welfare reserves," there will be more agreements, and opportunities for partnerships to encourage growth for the whole community.

The forum opened with an illustrated history of the Sechelt Indian Band, an explanation of the distinctions between the Sechelt Indian Band (SIB) and the Sechelt Indian Government District (SIGD), and an illustration of how the treaty and legislation that created the SIGD has become a model for other First Nations.

Sechelt band councillor Stan Dison said developments on band lands are often misunderstood.

"We have to dissolve the negative stuff, not just for the band -- for the whole community," said Dison.

Dison stressed the need to resolve past conflicts and create opportunities not just for the Sechelt people, but for the neighboring communities as well.

See Mike Page A17

Gibsons mayor Barry Janyk discuss challenges with other members of the Community to Community Forum held in the Sechelt Indian Band Longhouse Sept. 18 and 19.
Mike Harcourt: “This is the B.C. way”

Continued from A16

“People of the Sliammon nation (from Powell River) are dying poor in a rich land,” he said. Sechelt Band, and Brian Hays, operations manager for the Sunshine Coast forest district, presented a speech entitled “Timtym 101” in five minutes or less.

Noting that sweeping legislative changes will affect the forest business in B.C., Hayses said there will be new opportunities for First Nations to access timber. Revenue sharing and accommodation agreements, expanded commercial and woodlot licenses and a clawback of 20 per cent of major forest licences’ holdings to be distributed among First Nations and segmental companies through competitive sales were cited as initiatives that will have positive benefit for the community.

Hayses said independent contractors such as Ken Swidoni are now providing consulting and training in heavy equipment on the Sechelt Band’s Deardorff Bay forest tenure.

He called this an example of how the band and local contractors can enter mutually beneficial joint ventures.

“Opportunity is a wonderful word but what opens the door of opportunity?” demanded school board trustee, Les Dixon. “Skills, confidence, passion.”

Dixon spoke eloquently of the consequences of what she described as “apathy at graduation rates.”

Sisters Margaret Joe Dixon, Tilly August and Theresa Jeffries.

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