



Volume 10, Issue 3

June 2016

SXTA

Áthelets-Leq'á:mél-Popqkw'em-Sq'ewá:lxw-Sq'ewqéyl-Ch'iyáqtel-Yeqwyeqwi:ws

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association UPDATE

Temq'óq'ó
"high water time"

"S'ólh témexw te íkw'elò. Xólhmet te mekw'stām ít kwelât."
"This is our land. We have to take care of everything that belongs to us."

Treaty Update

Save the date!

1st SXTA ANNUAL GATHERING

When:

September 17, 2016
10am – 3pm

Where:

Tzeachten Sports
Field

What:

Treaty update
Activities
Games
Entertainment
Prizes
Guest Speakers &
much more!

More information!!

**COMING
SOON!**

SXTA Operations Report

General Manager's Report

The big news is that over the past two months, the Treaty Negotiating Team secured confirmation from BC that the SXTA is positioned in the highest level of provincial treaty focus groups. Our BC Negotiator confirmed that financial and human resources are being provided to expedite the analyses needed in developing our Agreement in Principle (AIP) Land and Cash Offer, in response to the STXA. The tri-partite SXTA Lands Technical Working Group has met and kick-started this process. **This is the last remaining critical element needed to complete our draft AIP.**

We have effectively begun implementing our strategy for increased community engagement this year through our Outreach Team. We brought in a public relations specialist from the Pace Group, Kathy Springer, to assist in developing a communication plan and media strategy aimed at effectively reaching and assessing our community members regarding their necessary awareness of the soon-to-be AIP, and post-AIP process.

Steady progress continues to be made by our Outreach Team and technical teams on the Outreach Treaty Related

Measures (TRM) project. The land and governance working group (LGWG) has provided key feedback to our Outreach Team as they re-develop the SXTA website and prepare pre-AIP information brochures.

The level of activity among our Outreach Team in the communities providing presentations at Kitchen Table gatherings and Council Meetings has increased substantially over the past two months. Over 50 members have been updated through Kitchen Table Gatherings and one on ones, mainly in the central region. Our goal is to increase activity in the Leq'á:mél and Skawahlook in the near future. The Outreach Team is also planning an annual gathering. The date for the Annual Gathering is Sept 17, 2016! More information to come. The Outreach team with help from the

Continued on page 2



Operations Report from page 1

negotiators as facilitators completed the Annual Youth Forum with great success, and are pursuing additional types of connections and activities. Members of the TNT are also attending Council meetings as requested.

Engagement with the Ts'elxwéyeqw Tribe continues, resulting in plans for a Workshop to address questions regarding post-Treaty relationships. As an aspect of local government engagement, connections have been re-established with Regional District staff in pursuing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and Community to Community Gathering between leadership – likely to occur this Fall.



SXTA WORKSHOP UPDATE!



On May 2nd and 3rd the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) met again to discuss asset sharing. When our treaty is implemented we will all be one, we will be together and will share all of our assets as well as our debts. We will be working as a group and not separated by Indian Affairs anymore. Some of the comments from our leaders on asset sharing were:

- If we are going into treaty together, I believe we should all be on board as a collective. We should have a mission statement as a collective leadership for all our decisions. I do support this.
- Yes, this is the only way to act as one.
- I support collective sharing.
- I support collective sharing for sure, as long as we keep our certificate of possession (CP), and as long as everyone in our community benefits. Our membership need to understand this thoroughly.
- Yes, strength in numbers.
- My band is small, we take pride in little we have, we

are humble, we are/would be fine, sharing what we have with the collective

- I see the benefits of asset sharing administratively and politically but we have 495 + members we need to have a formal discussion with. At this time it is a no because our community is not well -informed.
- I think our membership would have problem with sharing land and revenue. They would be looking for jobs.
- Let's go back to the way it was!
- Why do we have to share our assets and debts?



On the second day of our workshop former Chief of Tsawwassen First Nation Kim Baird joined us. Kim gave us a presentation on the Tsawwassen Treaty and did a Q&A with us afterwards. She discussed why Tsawwassen went into treaty, what implementation was like, the challenges she sees now, treaty issues and governance issues. Kim said **“Indian Act frame work sucks. There’s no other way to describe it. Communities are stuck in inadequate structures with inadequate resources. It’s an imposed system on communities. Chief and Council don’t get to govern Indian Affair programs which never meet community needs.”** **“Many people are afraid to let go of Indian Act. There are so few examples of what life looks like after Indian Act.”** **“We kicked the Indian Act off our land! Now all our decisions are made locally.”** **“The cost of doing nothing is far more risky than treaty”** It was a very informative presentation and Q&A to follow! Thank you for joining us Kim!

FUTURE FOCUS Youth Page

THE YOUTH FORUM!!!



SXTA Youth Forum 2016

The Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association Outreach Team would like to raise our hands to everyone that participated in the Annual Youth Forum and made this a huge success! Our theme this year was "Creating a Government". There were about 50 students from school districts #33 and #75 in attendance. It was a super fun engaging way to get the kids to learn about treaty which will directly affect their generation and future generations to come! They are our future!

SXTA Outreach Coordinator Cathy Hall began by welcoming the students and support workers with a Stó:lō prayer to bless our day. Our MC Theresa Warbus (nee Point) of Skowkale continued the day by splitting the students into 4 groups by playing "Hunter, Bear, and Woman" (an Aboriginal way to play rock, paper, and scissors). They were

then rotated between the 'mini workshops' facilitated by a Treaty Negotiating Member. The workshops were about 40 minutes long.

In the Main Hall, we had our Cultural Advisor of the Treaty Negotiating team, Naxaxalhts'i or otherwise known as Sonny McHalsie facilitating the cultural aspect of the forum. Sonny discussed the importance of maintaining our culture and traditions in a modern world. This station ended with a cultural craft activity which Frieda George facilitated. The youth each got to weave a part of the mini blanket which they really enjoyed doing!

Jean Teillet, our SXTA Chief Negotiator, went over "Elections" in the Elders room. The youth were taught the importance of participating and also engaged in a mock voting session where they actually voted at mini voting stations. There was lots of great feedback from the

kids! They learned a lot.

Our SXTA Technical Advisor, Dr. Dave Schaepe, held a "Governance structure" workshop in the Language classroom. The youth learned about the historical governance structure of the Stó:lō, the levels of governance proposed for the SXTA, as well as what each level of government is responsible for.

At the Governance House, Grand Chief Joe Hall, our political advisor on the Treaty Negotiating team, facilitated the "Leadership" aspect. He discussed and compared the various types of leadership in our daily lives, the roles and responsibilities of leaders, and the

criteria that is needed to become a leader.

We returned to the Main Hall for delicious Indian Tacos, catered by Marnetta Felix, who we'd also like to raise our hands to for providing us with this delicious meal.

We received awesome feedback from our youth! They really enjoyed learning about treaty, and learned quite a bit for such short time periods! The youth were given extra tickets for extra participation for the door prizes we had. There were Beats by Dre headphones, an iPod, a Go-Pro, and a Samsung Tablet.

Submitted by
Emily Kelly,
Outreach





**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw
Treaty Association**

SXTA Outreach Team

STÓ:LŌ XWEXWILMEXW TREATY
ASSOCIATION OUTREACH

Phone: 604-824-2435

Fax: 604-824-0278

E-mail: Cathy.Hall@stolonation.bc.ca

www.sxta.bc.ca

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) Reps:

Aitchelitz First Nation— Chief Angie Bailey

Skowkale First Nation—Councilor Jeff Point/Willy Hall

Tzeachten First Nation—Councilor Lawrence Roberts / Chief Glenda Campbell

Popkum First Nation—Councilor Harry Murphy / Chief James Murphy

Yakweakwioose First Nation—Grand Chief Frank Malloway / Councilor Terry Horne

Skawahlook First Nation—Chief Maureen Chapman / Councilor Deb Schneider

Leq'á:mél First Nation—Chief Alice Thompson / Councilor Sandy McDonald

ATTENTION MEMBERS OF:

Aitchelitz; Leq'á:mél; Popkum;
Skawahlook; Skowkale; Tzeachten; &
Yakweakwioose.

Note: Ages 16 yrs+

YOU ARE INVITED to join us on our
“Downriver” SXTA Placenames Tour
sponsored by the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw
Treaty Outreach Program. Lunch &
snacks provided.

Dress appropriately (layers) and wear
comfortable shoes suitable for mild hiking.
Don't forget your camera, binoculars, &
umbrella!

This full day tour begins at 8:00 a.m. in
front of Stó:lō Nation Building #1 at
Kwikw'alith'a (Coqualeetza) located in
Sardis at 7201 Vedder Road.

The tour starts at Kwikw'alith'a and we
will go through local First Nations areas
(Skowkale, Yakweakwioose, and
Tzeachten) and our first stop will be at
Cultus Lake, then back through Yarrow to
McDonald Park near Sumas River
Dyke. Then we head to the Big Rock
“Méqsel” (“nose” pictured above) in
Aldergrove Park and then onto Mission,
B.C. We will drive by St. Mary's
(Peqwxeyles) and then stop at Xá:ytem
for a brief tour.

We have lunch at the Leq'á:mél First
Nation gym. Then over to Harrison and
take a short walk to the hot springs. We
head back through Agassiz and return to
Kwikw'alith'a (Coqualeetza) around 4pm.

NOTE: Itinerary subject to change.

The SXTA Downriver Place Names Tour

July 9, 2016

**Albert (Sonny) McHalsie -
Naxaxalhts'i**
Cultural

Advisor for the Stó:lō
Xwexwilmexw Treaty Assn
Narrator for
SXTA sponsored Tours

If you have any questions on the
Saturday SXTA tour
Please call Emily: 604-824-5315



THE NARRATED TOUR

Enjoy the majestic mountains and waterways of the **Lower Fraser Valley** on our new tour departing from **Chilliwack** destined for the scenic route through **Cultus Lake, Abbotsford, Mission, and Harrison Hot Springs, B.C.** Listen and learn about the unique relationship between the **Stó:lō**, “the River People”, their land and their environment through the narratives provided by Naxaxalhts'i, who has studied **Halq'eméylem** Place Names for over 21 years. Listen and see first hand the special significance of **Halq'eméylem** place names from the recent award winning **Stó:lō** Nation publication titled *A Stó:lō-Coast Salish Historical Atlas*. Learn about the three main dialects of Halq'eméylem and the many micro dialects of each, and the two main aspects of **Stó:lō** oral history including **Sxwōxwiyám** and **Sqwelqwel**, and learn about the unique relationship the **Stó:lō** maintain with their environment through their **Shxwelí**, or “spirit, life force”.

Hear about **Kwikw'alith'a**, **Sq'ewqéyl**, **Ch'iyáqtel**, **Th'ewá:li** and **Swilhcha**; special stops of interests include Cultus Lake home of a **T'litego Spá:th** (underwater bear); hear about the Barrowtown Pump Station and the draining of **Semá:th** Lake; visit **Xá:ytem** — explore Stó:lō history, culture and archaeology; learn about **Xexá:ls** transformations like **Méqsel** (pictured above), **Xá:ytem**, **Tixwelátsa**, **Qwél:es**, and **Chitmexw**; hear about the **stl'áleqem** or spiritual beings. Learn the Halq'eméylem place names including the original names of **Qoqó:lem** for Vedder Mountain, **Teq'qéyex** for Sumas Mountain, and **Xweqw'eyiqw** for Echo Island, and many more **Halq'eméylem** Place Names.

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER (for catering purposes and LIMITED SEATING)

STÓ:LŌ XWEXWILMEXW TREATY ASSOCIATION OUTREACH

Mail: Bldg. 10—7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack, B.C. V2R 4G5

Phone: 604-824-2420 (Reception)