



Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association UPDATE

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

SXTA 1st ANNUAL GATHERING!

On September 17th, the SXTA held their 1st Annual Gathering at the Tzeachten Sports Field!

The weather did not cooperate but we managed to get just over 100 people to register. Chief Maureen Chapman, SXTA President welcomed the group.

Speakers:

- ◇ Grand Chief Steven Point
- ◇ Grand Chief Joe Hall
- ◇ Chief Terry Horne

Booths were set up for:

- ◇ Registration
- ◇ Cedar Make & Take
- ◇ Weaving with Freida
- ◇ Medicine & Plants
- ◇ Free Massage Therapy
- ◇ Let's Talk Treaty
- ◇ Balloon Twisting
- ◇ Face Painting
- ◇ Gone Fishing
- ◇ Conk the Crow

Entertainment:

- ◇ Theresa Warbus
- ◇ Grand Chief Steven Point
- ◇ Dion Weisbrod
- ◇ Carrielynn Victor

All Registrants received free pens, totes & T-shirts and were put into the door prize draw.



The "Passport" Prize Draw of a 40" Flatscreen TV went to Doris Malloway.

There were a number of door prizes and the \$500 Walmart gift card was won by Sandra Pederson.

We had an awesome entertainment line-up starting with our MC Theresa Warbus (Point) and then her dad, our keynote Grand Chief Steven Point who surprised some of our audience members by playing his guitar and singing a few of his own songs. *"I didn't know Steven could sing!"* remarked a member.

Steven was followed by our local Tzeachten country singer Dion Weisbrod.

Our last performance was by Carrielynn Victor of Cheam, who not only set up a booth for her traditional medicinal plants, but she also agreed to share a couple of her own songs and unique sound.



Many thanks to: the volunteers, the Tzeachten maintenance crew, our caterer Marnetta Felix & company, SXTA leaders, negotiation team, all those that came to learn about treaty and have

some fun, and to our staff, for making this a great, even though a very wet, 1st SXTA Annual Gathering. 🌟



**See you next year!
Date to be determined.**

SXTA Outreach
Bldg. 10—7201
Vedder Road,
Chilliwack, BC
V2R 4G5

Reception:
604-824-2420

www.sxta.bc.ca

September 19-20, 2016 SXTA Workshop



On September 19-20, 2016 the SXTA held their quarterly workshop focusing on the Critical Path and Strategic Planning and Treaty Settlement Land (TSL).

First there was an update on the Communications plan by the Outreach team. The 1st Annual SXTA Gathering was held on September 17th. (photos left & page 1).

The Outreach team is also working on a poster series and so far two draft posters have been designed with photos of Yeqwyeqwi:ws members :

- 1) "The Indian Act Sucks!" with a photo of Chief Terry Horne.
- 2) "More Land for our Future Generations" with a photo of Grand Chief Frank Malloway.



Copies of these drafts were given out at the Gathering.

We are still in the process of revising our website.

Critical Path and Strategic Planning:

We need to get ready for our post-treaty world to ensure a smooth transition from our current Indian Act Band structures to our own single governance structure.

This is a very big task and there is a lot of work to be done, both leading up to ratification and after effective date.

For example , we need to:

- have a set of laws ready to be rolled out;
- review all of our corporate entities as "Bands" will cease to exist;
- figure out our relationships with parties such as: Ts'elxweyeqw Tribe, Stó:lō Nation, Stó:lō Services Agency, etc.;
- have our governance and corporate structures sorted out.

Our working groups have evolved to meet the needs of this critical path.

The Lands & Governance Working Group is now the Critical Path Working Group and the new groups are: Treaty Settlement Lands Focus Group and a Social Needs Working Group.

These groups involve members from the SXTA leadership, treaty negotiators, outreach and support staff.

Treaty Settlement Land (TSL):

We reviewed where we are at with the current TSL and why there are alternatives.

We asked our negotiators to create a package that has a

balance of land uses, values, etc.

We recognize where the land comes from and the prioritization all comes from the people. Discussion was held on how the government prioritizes and rationalizes the land. Part of the process is for us to pull it apart a bit. This will help us understand what the Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) package is and what is acceptable to us.

It is important to note that those SXTA members that hold Certificates of Possession will not lose their land.

The next workshop is in November 2016. 🌟



Pre-Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) Fact Book has arrived!

The SXTA Outreach department has created a Pre-AiP Fact Book to inform our community members on where we are at with our treaty! There is a lot of great information in this booklet. Copies have been mailed out to our membership.

Please contact the Outreach Team if you did not receive yours!
604-824-2420

Treaty Quick Facts! Part 2 of 2

By Emily Kelly

Youth Page



“What about Tsilhqot’in? We don’t need treaty now.”

Tsilhqot’in & Treaty:

Litigation - the process of taking legal action. - Like Tsilhqot’in did.



- ⇒ Going to court with provincial or federal governments to secure our title to lands and resources can be costly and time consuming - Tsilhqot’in won their case 20+ years later, but will now have to negotiate self-government and all other issues regarding jurisdiction.
- ⇒ No guarantee on outcome if going to court.
- ⇒ Leads back to negotiations (like Treaty).
- ⇒ Requirements for aboriginal title are: demonstrate evidence of sufficient, continuous and exclusive occupation of the land prior to contact.
- ⇒ If Stó:lō wanted to go through litigation to assert title on S’ólh Téméxw, the question of who is the proper rights holder arises. Is

it a Band, the tribe or the Nation? Treaty provides a way to gain significant control over lands and resources and jurisdiction in a way that does not affect the rights of other Stó:lō who are not in treaty.

- ⇒ Litigation would not give SXTA law making authority other than current Indian Act powers and none for off-reserve lands.
- ⇒ Court finding of Aboriginal title would provide no funding or jurisdiction for self-government.
- ⇒ The BC Treaty Process is based on an assumption that First Nations in BC have Aboriginal title. That, after all, is the only reason BC is negotiating treaties.
- ⇒ Negotiating a treaty is a way of having Aboriginal title recognized (as Treaty Settlement Lands) without going to court for a declaration.

⇒ Tsilhqot’in does only one thing—it provides a good precedent to go to court.

Tsilhqot’in is a good precedent for going to court. It settles only some of the land issues. It is not the magic solution for achieving a just settlement for Stó:lō control over resources or governance.



Treaty is the only path currently available to achieve cultural protection; law-making powers; and building relationships.

Why are we entering a treaty?

- ◆ Self-determination
- ◆ Economic development
- ◆ Better training and education opportunities.
- ◆ Create more employment
- ◆ Legacy for future generations.

Ultimately, we want OUT

of the INDIAN ACT and control of our own lives and destiny to improve the way we are living today.

Will we be paying taxes?

Yes, but the tax money goes to our treaty government so we will not be dependent on Canada to determine our lives anymore. The details are still under negotiation. Tax exemption is NOT an aboriginal right, and the taxes paid by citizens help us to be a self-sufficient nation. As Grand Chief Frank Malloy said, *“Our ancestors had a form of taxation where everyone contributed in some way to the well-being of the entire tribe.”*

How is the loan repaid?

The loan is currently part of the negotiations. 🌟



SXTA Downriver Place Names Tour – August 10, 2016

On August 10th, the Outreach Team hosted a Downriver tour for the Leq’á:mel youth. We had 11 participants attend! This particular tour was modified by Naxaxalhts’i “Sonny” McHalsie to fit the Leq’á:mel territory.



We did our regular Downriver tour, with a few extra stops along the way. Place names that were mentioned include: Skwiyó:m, Thewelhem, Kwi:a:metsets, Thí:thxeleqal, Qwá:mitch, Leq’á:mel, Tlat-whaas Yalstrick, Pepqwá:tchem, Qelaxwtxwelh, Sxwoxwimelh, Xelxé:yles, Xat’seq, S’í:yits’em, and Xa:ytem.

It was a great day engaging the Leq’á:mel youth in learning about their own local territory! Our hands go up to Helena Paul for making us a nutritious lunch and making this possible!

We enjoyed having our future generations become more involved in learning about S’olh Temexw.

Submitted by Emily Kelly, Outreach



SXTA Upriver Place Names Tour – October 1, 2016



NEXT SXTA Place Names Tour – May, 2017



Our next tour will be in the Chilliwack River Valley in May 2017, date to be confirmed. Contact Emily Kelly @ 604-824-5315 (Emily.Kelly@stolonation.bc.ca) to reserve your spot!

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) Representatives:

Áthelets	Leq’á:mel	Popqkw’em	Sq’ewá:lxw	Sq’ewqéyl	Yeqwyeqwi:ws	Ch’iyáqtel
Chief Angie Bailey	Chief Alice Thompson	Chief James Murphy	Chief Maureen Chapman	Chief Willy Hall	Grand Chief Frank Malloway	Chief Glenda Campbell
Councillors: Leona Sam Gordon George John George	Councillors: Barb Leggat Darrell McKamey Daniel Kelly Justin Laslo Shawn Gabriel Sandy McDonald	Councillor: Cynthia Murphy 	Councillor: Deb Schneider 	Councillors: Jeff Point Derek Hansom Sam Archie Dustin Hall	Hereditary Chief Elaine Malloway Chief Terry Horne Councillors: Nikki LaRock Jason Malloway	Councillors: Lawrence Roberts Cathy Hall Melvin Williams Jr. Les Joe