



# STÓ:LŌ XWEXWILMEXW TREATY ASSOCIATION



2013-14

ANNUAL REPORT

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# Message from the President

This year the SXTA achieved two major milestones in our goal to achieve an Agreement -in-Principle:

We heard the SXTA First Nation communities in their messages to speed things up and aim for tangible results. In November of 2013, we put forward our 'Land and Cash Offer' to BC and Canada. This was a very proactive move on our part and was one of, if not, 'the' first of its kind in the BC Treaty Process. By not waiting for the governments to take this very important first step, we cut years of waiting from the process.

Secondly, in December of 2013, we presented our SXTA-approved Constitution. Our Constitution lays out our plan for our own government – both National and Tribal/Local. It is by this Constitution that our government will operate and by which we leave behind the Indian Act once our treaty is completed and becomes effective.

Our assertiveness at the Treaty Table in 2013-14 brought us substantially closer to completing Stage 4 of the treaty process. Our ability to take these giant steps was made possible by the great amount of input and support of our community members and leadership.

We thank you for your ongoing involvement and support!

*Chief Maureen Chapman, Shwetélemel-elhót*



## SXTA Executive Directors

**Chief Maureen Chapman**, Skawahlook  
*Shxwetélemel-elhót*  
President



**Chief Angie Bailey**, Aitchelitz  
*Skemi*  
Vice-President



**Chief Glenda Campbell**, Tzeachten  
*Chelotsowe't*  
Secretary/Treasurer

# Introduction

The Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) allocated its human and financial resources to engage with the B.C. Treaty Process per the objectives laid out in the 2013-14 fiscal year (FY) work plan.

The SXTA continues working to complete an Agreement-in-Principle (Stage 4) and move into Stage 5 negotiations.

The 2013-14 FY work plan sets out a schedule of the SXTA's treaty operational structure, activities and priority goals for the year.

Engagement in treaty making occurred at many levels including tri-partite Main Table negotiations and Side Table technical meetings, SXTA Leadership and Working Group meetings, and Community, Youth and Public Information sessions.

Substantive issues addressed in negotiations are outlined in the updated 'Rolling Draft'. Substantive activity and progress at the treaty table in the fiscal year is demonstrated by the Main Table Records of Decision. This report focuses on summarizing the SXTA's activities and efforts developing their own treaty during the 2013-14FY.

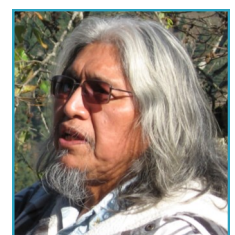
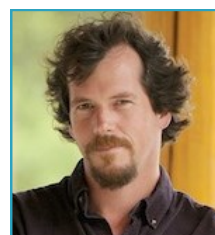
## SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT)

**SXTA Chair & Political Advisor**  
Grand Chief Joe Hall  
*Skw'omkwe'mexw*

**Chief Negotiator**  
Jean Teillet, IPC  
Pape, Salter, Teillet LLP

**Technical Advisor/ General  
Manager, Treaty Operations**  
Dr. Dave Schaepe,  
*Tl'elqtelemexw* Director,  
SRRMC

**Cultural Advisor**  
Sonny McHalsie, *Naxaxalhts'i*  
Cultural Advisor-Historian, SRRMC



## Stage 4: Agreement-in-Principle

Stó:lō Nation Treaty negotiations currently include Aitchelitz, Skawahlook, Leq'a:mel, Popkum, Skowkale, Tzeachten and Yakweakwioose.

**Stó:lō Nation** is currently at Stage 4—Negotiation of an Agreement in Principle.

The three parties examine in detail the issues identified in the framework agreement, with the goal of reaching an agreement in principle. The agreement in principle identifies and defines a range of rights and obligations, and forms the basis for the treaty.

It is important that our members are involved in a meaningful way.

**Communication** is key—not everyone is available to attend meetings, workshops, annual meetings, etc. in their home communities so newsletters, websites, and other communications tools are important to keep our members informed and to let them know how they can participate.

We must ensure that all views are heard and recorded and that all questions are, or will be, answered.

We must recognize and acknowledge different viewpoints and perspectives.

Through the Stó:lō Treaty Liaison Outreach Team, Stó:lō Nation will provide regular updates and opportunities to submit input to the negotiating team.

First Nation members have a responsibility to inform themselves and be a part of the decision-making process that will result in a treaty.

The goal is to reach agreement on each of the topics that will form the basis of the treaty.

Once the Agreement in Principle is completed, it is important that members understand the content of the agreement.

Aboriginal Rights & Title cannot be extinguished by simple legislation because they are protected by the Constitution Act, 1982.



**No extinguishment of Aboriginal Rights &  
Title will result from Treaty.**

# SXTA ORGANIZATION AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY



In 2013-14, the SXTA's treaty operations were composed of four major interrelated and interactive areas of work, fully active throughout the year. These include:

- (1) **Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA)** -- the leadership of the treaty association providing direction on all treaty operations, represented by seven Stó:lō First Nations (Aitchelitz, Leq'á:mel, Popkum, Skawahlook, Skowkale, Tzeachten, and Yakweakwioose). Chief Maureen Chapman (Skawahlook FN), Chief Angie Bailey (Aitchelitz FN), and Chief Glenda Campbell (Tzeachten FN) are the current Directors of the SXTA;
- (2) **SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT)** – the principle negotiating team acting on behalf of the SXTA, composed of four members: Chief Political Advisor (Grand Chief Joe Hall), Chief Negotiator (Jean Teillet), Technical Advisor (Dr. David Schaepe), and Cultural Advisor (Sonny McHalsie). The Technical Advisor of the TNT provides general management for the SXTA treaty operations. The TNT reports to and takes direction from the SXTA;

- (3) **SXTA Working Groups (WG)** – advisory groups formed by members of the SXTA, or appointed representatives, community members, and researchers/consultants serving to inform the development of positions and content of chapters being negotiated or in preparation for discussion at the Main Table (e.g., Lands; Governance).

SXTA Working Groups continued work on aspects of governance and lands. The WG developed a framework for the SXTA Constitution. The WG also acted as the project Steering Committee for the SXTA's Treaty Related Measures projects including Constitution Drafting, Economic Development Partnerships and Intergovernmental Relations, and the Leq'ámel Economic Development Quarry Feasibility Study (of which Leq'ámel FN established its own Steering Group). WGs are facilitated by the Technical Advisor or other members of the TNT;

- (4) **SXTA Treaty Outreach Team** – the SXTA Treaty Liaisons are responsible for sharing treaty-related information with the SXTA community of First Nations, families, individuals and youth, as well as the general public. The Outreach Team works closely with the TNT.

The Outreach Team communicates with SXTA First Nations, as well as the Stó:lō communities, youth and public at-large. The Outreach Team produces and distributes a bi-monthly SXTA treaty bulletin. Throughout the year, the Liaisons host numerous one-on-one and family-based discussions with community members about current treaty issues.

They regularly meet with community members, providing information and gathering feedback from the membership of the seven SXTA First Nations. They also help organize and facilitate a variety of broad-based treaty forums including Community and Youth Forums.



# Youth Forum 2013

# TRI-PARTITE NEGOTIATIONS

## Objectives

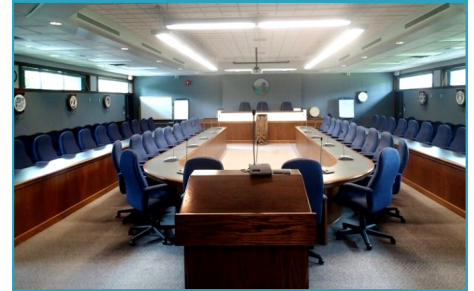
The SXTT sets out a goal of developing chapters required to substantially complete an Agreement-in-Principle and addressing substantive issues, as laid out below:

Activities serving to advance progress in addressing substantive issues will include:

- ◆ Land Selection
- ◆ Governance
- ◆ Shared Decision-Making (internal / external)
  - ◇ Cultural Resource Management and Land Protection Opportunities

Achieve *Tangible Results* -- including:

- ◆ treaty loan debt – clarification of apportionment agreement;
- ◆ land acquisition / protection;
- ◆ resource / land use protection; and
- ◆ economic development initiatives.



## Major Areas of Work

The SXTA, British Columbia and Canada engaged in numerous Main Table negotiations (i.e., Main Table Working Groups<sup>1</sup>) between April 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014.

Negotiations focused on major areas of work as outlined below. Among these, lands and governance stand out as priority items:

- ◆ Lands (focus on Land Selection) – defining:
  - ◇ Interests
  - ◇ Needs
  - ◇ Opportunities
  - ◇ Cultural Heritage Resource Management Framework
  - ◇ Treaty Settlement Land Package – Areas of Interest / Treaty Settlement Land
- ◆ Governance (focus on Constitution drafting) – SXTA Constitution Draft
- ◆ Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw FN community consultation
- ◆ Intra-Stó:lō Communications re: SXTA Treaty
- ◆ Treaty Outreach / Education / Communication – public / 3rd parties / other FNs as may be needed
- ◆ Substantive Progress Completing the AIP Rolling Draft
- ◆ Advancing the Land and Cash Offer Mandate



## Internal Activity

The SXTA took significant initiative this year, achieving two important milestones of progress working toward an AIP:

- ◆ developing and presenting a Land and Capital Transfer Offer to Canada and BC (November 2013 presentation);
- ◆ developing and presenting the SXTA's Constitution (approved draft) to Canada and BC (December 2013 presentation)

These achievements were based in the SXTA's activities at numerous levels of internal work (e.g., SXTA; TNT; WGs; Outreach), and significantly among the SXTA community. The SXTA met regularly to provide direction for negotiations.

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<sup>1</sup>Main Table Working Group meetings are chaired by one of the Parties, typically the SXTA, and are attended by the federal and provincial Lead Negotiators and technical assistants, along with the SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team.

The TNT met regularly, often multiple times each month, to strategize and prepare for the treaty table and develop updates for the SXTA.

The Lands and Governance Working Group was active throughout the year, providing key input into these cornerstone elements of the AIP, currently being negotiated, including the Constitution and Land and Capital Transfer projects.

The Outreach Program was very active in its efforts to relay treaty-related information from and to the seven SXTA Communities.

Other technical efforts include on-going efforts to coordinate, facilitate, and administer all elements of the SXTA treaty operations. This also included attending to annual BCTC fiscal and reporting issues. Efforts were maintained to facilitate the BCTC funding process, working with the SXTA to prepare the necessary documents in advance of the fiscal year-end, facilitating the 'seamless' flow of treaty funds between fiscal years and aiming to maximize treaty activity both at internal and tripartite levels.

# Annual Gathering 2013



# SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY & OUTCOMES

## **Tripartite Main Table Working Group**—Milestones include:

- ⇒ Presenting of the SXTA's Land and Capital Transfer Offer to Canada and BC (November 2013 presentation);
- ⇒ Presenting of the SXTA's Constitution (approved draft) to Canada and BC (December 2013 presentation).

## **Tripartite Lands Technical Working Group (LTWG)** - Highlights include:

- ⇒ Commencement of SXTA Treaty Settlement Land - Land Interests Analysis
- ⇒ Development of a GIS-based Land Status / Interests Analysis Module (and entirely and novel new analytic tool, with province-wide application)
- ⇒ Commencement of Phase II: Cultural Sites Protection and Management Plan Analysis – Analysis of Interests and Management Options
- ⇒ Development of Multi-year Work Plan and Prioritization of projects

## **SXTA**— Providing direction for treaty engagement – on-going.

The SXTA completed five TRM projects, and submitted a proposal for one additional TRM project for the 2013-14 fiscal years.

## **SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team**—Strategizing / preparing for negotiations—on-going.

## **SXTA Treaty Working Group**—SXTA Lands and Governance Working Group – regular, monthly meetings on issues of Lands and Governance:

- ⇒ refined the SXTA governance model;
- ⇒ developed framework of the SXTA constitution;
- ⇒ acted as the Steering Group providing input into the development of SXTA's Treaty Related Measures Projects including community economic visioning; land selection, and cultural sites protection projects (also associated with the LTWG).

## **SXTA Outreach Team**—On-going work with one Coordinator/Liaison and three regional Community Liaisons. Work included:

- ⇒ producing and distributing bi-monthly treaty bulletins; carrying out a youth forum and numerous community-, family-, elders-, and individual- meetings regarding treaty;

## SXTA Outreach Team 2013-14

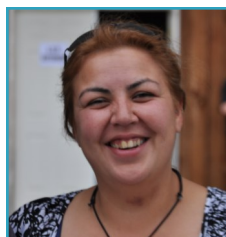
Coordinator/Liaison  
East Region  
**CATHY HALL, Salacy**



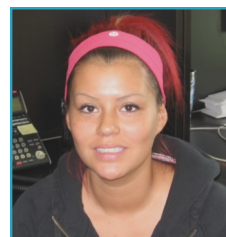
Liaison  
South Region  
**BRANDEE HALL**



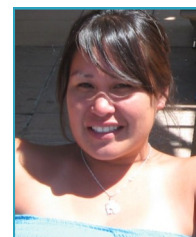
Liaison  
North Region  
**VICTORIA KELLY**



**EMILY KELLY**  
(Note: replaced Victoria Kelly in April 2014)



Liaison  
All Regions  
**JOY HALL**



NOTE: Liaison for All Regions, JOY HALL has been on maternity leave since July 2013, returning November 2014

- ⇒ maintaining the SXTA web-site ([www.sxta.bc.ca](http://www.sxta.bc.ca));
- ⇒ organized Youth Treaty Forums – grade 10-12 youth (Native and Non-Native) from the local School District #33 school system (available DVD);
- ⇒ running regular SXTA Place-names Tours;
- ⇒ organized Treaty Forums / Educational Sessions– including sessions with the Chief Negotiators from BC and Canada; as well as community sessions regarding the SXTA's Land and Capital Transfer Offer.

#### Overlaps/Shared Territories Issues:

- ⇒ Preliminary engagement with non-SXTA Stó:lō by way of the Stó:lō Round Table, in particular. Engagement with the Ts'elxwéyeqw Tribe and local governments as part of a TRM project on economic development and intergovernmental relations; also with regard to shared reserve/commonage land interests.



...“Many other First nations are impatient to move ahead with treaty negotiations. The treaty process is bigger than any one First Nation. It took us a long time to get a seat at the table and this is still our best opportunity to resolve the issues that have pitted First Nations against the other governments.”

*Chief Commissioner Steven Point  
Excerpt from the May 2007 issue of the Kahtou , page 5*

## Chilliwack River Valley Place Names Tour September 2013





## Upriver Place Names Tour Oct 2013



# Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Table Record of Meetings – 2013-14

## Meeting Type - Abbreviations:

Public Meeting (PM)

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Table – Tri-Partite Negotiation (SXTT)

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA)

Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT)

Working Group (WG)

Treaty Outreach Liaisons (Outreach)

Year / Month	Tri-Partite		SXTA-Specific				
	SXTT Main Table	Lands Technical Working Group (LTWG)	SXTA	TNT	WG <sup>2</sup>	Treaty Forum (Public / Youth / TAC)	Outreach
<b>2013</b>							
April	2	1	1	1	2	1	3-9 mo.
May	3	1	--	1	1		"
June	1	1	1	1	1		"
July	--	--	1	1	--		"
August	--	--	--	--	1		"
September	2	1	1	2	--		"
October	2	1	1	2	--		"
November	2	1	1	1	1		"
December	3	1	--	1	--		"
<b>2014</b>							
January	2	2	--	2	1		"
February	3	1	1	1	1	3	"
March	2	1	1	2	1		"
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>36-87</b>

<sup>2</sup>Working Groups include (1) Governance/Lands; and (2) potentially one other to be identified by the SXTA, per the recommendation of the currently active Working Group.

## Other External Treaty Activity: Treaty Consultations, Chief Negotiators' Meetings, and Assembly of First Nations

The SXTA spent significant effort and resources engaging in treaty activities beyond negotiations at their specific table. Additional external activity included participation in: (1) Governmental- and First Nations-Consultations over the Yale Final Agreements; (2) regular meetings of FN Summit Chief Negotiators, and (3) the Assembly of First Nations.

The SXTA's efforts in consultations with British Columbia, Canada, the Yale First Nation regarding the Yale Final Agreement Particularly were frustrated by the ratification of the document and passing of the related treaty bill by the Federal government. Issues relating to the Yale First Nation Treaty remain unresolved.

## "Understanding Treaty"



## Youth Forum February 2014

Approximately 40 youth participated in our "Understanding Treaty" Youth Forum. They were divided into 3 groups, and our awesome MC Theresa Warbus (pictured on left) cleverly assigned one person as the "Chief" of each group. "Chiefs" were given Halq'emeylem cards showing them how to introduce themselves in our language, which they had to do at each station.

**Station 1)** Dr. Dave Schaepe (SXTA Technical Advisor) facilitated the "Lands" station. He demonstrated the effects of the Douglas reserve creation and then the Trutch reductions in reserve lands and resources. **Station 2)** Jean Teillet (SXTA Chief Negotiator) facilitated the station "Getting out from under the Indian Act". She exposed the discriminating rules with regards to "status" under the Indian Act. **Station 3)** Naxaxalhts'i, Sonny McHalsie (SXTA Cultural Advisor) facilitated the "Longhouse Ceremony" station located in the Sto:lo Longhouse. As an added incentive for interaction, students who also participated through conversation or asking questions at each station, were awarded "Free Spin" tickets towards the draw for major door prizes. The students thoroughly enjoyed these interactive stations as it gave them more insight into the history of Sto:lo culture, lands and governance.

## ABORIGINAL DAY—2013

The Yale Treaty received Royal Assent on June 19, 2013, and became Law.

The Stó:lō filed their Notice of Civil Claim in BC Supreme Court on June 20th, 2013.

On Aboriginal Day June 21st, 2013 about 40 Stó:lō and supporters gathered on the steps of the BC Law Courts in Vancouver and speeches were made to the group and to the media by three of the four Plaintiffs: Grand Chief Ken Malloway (Tzeachten First Nation), Corky Douglas (Cheam First Nation) and Sonny McHalsie (Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation).



# CONCLUSION

## COMMENTS from BC & CANADA Senior Treaty Negotiators at the SXTA Community Sessions:

- ♦ Canada remains fully committed to negotiating with the SXTA.
- ♦ Very comprehensive and high quality work.
- ♦ Very impressed on how TNT has worked on the treaty.
- ♦ Governance structure absolutely amazing, a lot of hard work, yet fundamental to the process.
- ♦ In past 3 years the TNT achieved significant milestones.
- ♦ Community participation truly is the predictor of success.

At the conclusion of the 2013-14 fiscal year, the SXTA is actively and aggressively working to complete Stage 4 of the B.C. Treaty Process. Consistent with core direction presented in this report, last year, the SXTA's activities continue to be fueled by a mandate from the SXTA First Nations and community members to achieve tangible results, and to attain a mandate for a Land and Cash Offer from BC/Canada as significant aspects of measurable progress in treaty.

The SXTA took significant initiative this year, achieving two significant milestones of progress working toward an AIP:

- developing and presenting a Land and Capital Transfer Offer to Canada and BC (November 2013 presentation);
- developing and presenting the SXTA's Constitution (approved draft) to Canada and BC (December 2013 presentation).

The Tri-Partite Annual Work Plan for 2014-15, submitted to the B.C. Treaty Commission in March of 2014, builds on these milestones and provides the projected objectives, issues and schedule of internal and external treaty activities for the upcoming fiscal year. A significant focus of 2014-15 will be land interest analyses, cultural sites protection planning, and other aspects of work needed to support a response from Canada and BC to the SXTA's Land and Capital Transfer Offer. The SXTA remains committed to the process of treaty-making with the ultimate intent of making things better for the future generations.





## Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty

"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."*



## **Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association**

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