



SXTA

# Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association UPDATE

*"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."*

## Temkwíkwexyel

"Time for baby sockeye salmon"

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 the predictor of success.

## "Where we are at with Treaty"

### Treaty Negotiation Update

The sessions on "Where we are at with Treaty" with BC/Canada Senior reps and our SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT) were held in February 2014. The first session was held on Feb 11th here in Main Hall of the Stó:lō Resource Centre, Bldg 10 and the second session was held in Leq'á:mél on Feb 13th.

Sena Paradis (Canada) and Cory Herrera (BC), were the panel reps along with our TNT reps: Grand Chief Joe Hall, Dr. Dave Schaepe, Dr.

Sonny McHalsie and our Chief Negotiator Jean Teillet with Celeste Haldane of the BC Treaty Commission as the facilitator.

Sena and Cory were very impressed with the comprehensive Offer made in November 2013. They acknowledged all the hard work the TNT put into the Offer and the work done with the SXTA membership.

They will continue to seek more input and clarification from the TNT. Canada will

respond more fully once the review is done on the Offer.

Both BC and Canada agreed that in the past 3 years the TNT has made significant progress.

Many questions/comments re: hunting, fishing, gathering, forestry, citizenship, taxation, shared territory, education, governance, dykes and access etc. were raised during the sessions and the Government reps were very impressed with the participation of the community members. \*

### Community Information Sessions

#### ATTENTION: SXTA Members:

Your attendance and input is very important to the process. The SXTA TNT will be coming to your communities to host Information Sessions on the Land/Capital Transfer Offer presented to BC & Canada back in November 2013.

Sessions have been booked for your community members as follows:

#### Aitchelitz Members:

**Monday, APRIL 14, 2014**

Stó:lō Resource Centre, 2nd Floor,  
Bldg 10, 7201 Vedder Road  
5:30pm Dinner

#### Tzeachten, Skowkale & Yakweakwioose Members:

**Wednesday, APRIL 16, 2014**

Tzeachten Community Centre,  
45855 Promontory Road  
5:30pm Dinner

#### Skawahlook Members:

**Wednesday, APRIL 23, 2014**

Stó:lō Resource Centre, 2nd Floor,  
Bldg 10, 7201 Vedder Road  
5:30pm Dinner

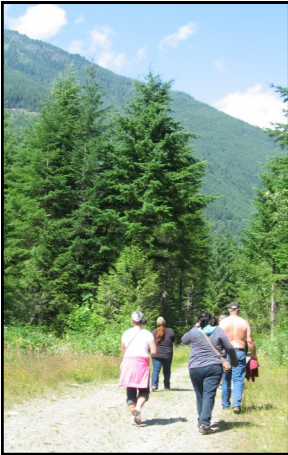
#### Leq'á:mél Members:

**Thursday, APRIL 24, 2014**

Leq'á:mél Community Centre  
43101 Leq'á:mél Way  
5:30pm Dinner



SXTA Downriver Tour, Méqsel Rock



*SXTA Outreach Photo  
SXTA Chwkw River Valley Tour*

**T**he Creator gave us laws that govern all our relationships to live in harmony with nature and mankind...

Excerpt from  
Stó:lō Declaration, 1975 which is included in  
the "Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Constitution" Draft,  
September 2013



*SXTA Youth Forum 2014*

## Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Governance

### Moving from an Indian Act Model to a Self-Government Treaty Model

One of the fundamental treaty-related challenges facing the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) is the transition from an Indian Act-based government to a self-designed governmental system. This transition will be facilitated by a Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Self-

Government Agreement included in the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty.

The new Stó:lō-based government model will be protected by s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

The transition is best accomplished in increments. It requires some understanding of traditional forms of Stó:lō governance pre-Indian Act and even more understanding of Stó:lō governance in

the age of the Indian Act. It also requires some understanding generally of government structure and behavior.

This work requires a considerable amount of effort and constant communication with the members of the 7 SXTA First Nation communities -- Aitchelitz, Leq'á:mel, Popkum, Skawahlook, Skowkale, Tzeachten, and Yakweakwoose.

## Stó:lō Governance before the Indian Act

The Stó:lō, as a collective cultural and political-economic entity, have governed themselves and practiced their cultural beliefs and traditions since beyond time in memory.

Traditional leadership roles and responsibilities have changed through time and have always been tied to their collective survival and political-economic well-being.

Stó:lō community members understand their role and value within their villages and tribes and respect the role and value of other citizens within their tribe and between other Stó:lō villages and tribes.

The relationship between families, villages and tribes developed out of thousands of years of societal growth within S'ólh Téméxw ('Our

World / Our Land) – the Lower Fraser River Watershed. Detailed treatment of these complex sets of relationships and the rich history of Stó:lō governance, while important to recognize, is beyond the scope of this project.

This immense history of Stó:lō government permeates all parts of the treaty process. The process of developing new governing institutions links back to the cultural and historical roots of Stó:lō governance pre-dating Colonial suppression. Having said that, one must also acknowledge that one of the most difficult realities facing the Stó:lō is that their previous methods of governance – that is, pre-Colonial systems of Stó:lō governance – have been significantly and

adversely impacted and incrementally displaced by non-Stó:lō morals, values and institutions such as those imposed by the Canadian government and the churches in the era following 1858 during which Canada and British Columbia underwent significant national and provincial development.

As the SXTA redevelops its governance system, it faces an enormous challenge – it must create a new relationship with Canada and British Columbia. A relationship that is flexible and adaptable.

Excerpts from:  
Developing a Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw  
Governance: A Treaty Related Measures  
Project—2008



# FUTURE FOCUS Youth Page

## SXTA YOUTH FORUM 2014

**O**n February 19th the SXTA Youth Forum was held at the Stó:lō Resource Centre. Students from S.D.#33 were invited to participate in the role playing at each of the 3 stations geared towards the theme of, "Understanding Treaty".

Approximately 40 students participated and were divided into 3 groups. Our MC, Theresa Point, devised a way to appoint one student from each group to act as the "Chief" of that group. They Chiefs were given cards which showed them how to introduce themselves in Halq'emeylem, which they had to do at each station.

During each session, if students participated in the conversation by asking questions, they were awarded "free spin" tickets to win more major door prize tickets.

**"Getting out from under the Indian Act"** facilitated by Jean

Teillet, SXTA Chief Negotiator: Some of the youth were given "status" cards, a "University Degree" certificate and a "Joined the Army" card to use as they role played throughout the session.

Jean used this role playing to help explain how people would lose or gain status through laws and amendments under the Indian Act.

It was a very successful session and the students said they learned a lot about the Indian Act. The role playing kept them entertained and interested throughout the entire 45-minute session!

**"Lands":** Dr. Dave Schaepe, SXTA Technical Advisor, demonstrated the effects of the Douglas Reserves creation and then the Trutch reductions in reserve lands and resources.

Students received role playing cards that represented the "Douglas Reserves"; the "Trutch Reductions" and "Right of Way" which also represented reductions to reserve land size, and finally "Treaty Settlement Land" cards.

There were also "Fact cards": one stating the number of acres/hectares we had under Douglas Reserves; and the other with totals after the Trutch reductions. Dave also discussed lands taken away for rights of way such as railroads, power lines, etc.

Dave had the students form a group outlining the Douglas Reserves. Next, he had the youth holding "Trutch Reduction" cards step away from the group; then the youth with "Right of Way" cards were also asked to step away.

Finally, the youth holding "Treaty Settlement Land" cards were invited back into the group.

This exercise showed how much land we had when the Douglas reserves existed, what was left after the Trutch reductions and what we expect to see after Treaty.

Students asked many important questions on the land use plan; why the Douglas Reserves were

*To know where we  
are going, we have  
to know where  
we've come from...*

reduced; who gave permission to do so etc.

**"Culture & Heritage" in the Longhouse:** Naxaxalhts'i, Sonny McHalsie, Cultural Advisor for the SXTA, demonstrated a mock "Honouring Ceremony" with the students in the Stó:lō Longhouse. Students were given their role playing cards representing: Family Workers; Witnesses; Helpers and a Receiver. Their group's "Chief" was honoured and Sonny explained the role of each person during a ceremony of this type.

Stó:lō Catering provided the delicious lunch and then we had our door prize draws.

Students then shared their thoughts on the day's activities expressing how much they enjoyed the role playing in each session.

*SXTA Outreach Team  
& Lisa Davidson, SRRMC*



*Leilani Diablo, Grand Prize  
winner of the i-Pad Mini*







**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw  
Treaty Association**

**SXTA Outreach Team**

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**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) Reps:**

**Aitchelitz First Nation**— Chief Angie Bailey (Skemi)

**Skowkale First Nation**—Councilor Jeff Point (A:yali:seleq')

**Tzeachten First Nation**—Councilor Lawrence Roberts/Chief Glenda Campbell

**Popkum First Nation**—Chief James Murphy/Councilor Harry Murphy

**Yakweakwoose First Nation**—Grand Chief Frank Malloway (Siyémches)/Councilor Terry Horne

**Skawahlook First Nation**—Chief Maureen Chapman/Councilor Deb Schneider

**Leq'á:mél First Nation**—Councilor Mike Kelly/Chief Alice Thompson (Mae'xe)

**If you would rather receive the SXTA Newsletter via e-mail, please send your request to the Outreach Team at [Cathy.Hall@stolonation.bc.ca](mailto:Cathy.Hall@stolonation.bc.ca)**

## UPCOMING EVENTS....

**Attention SXTA members:**

### **SXTA Regular Meeting**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014**

**9:00am—Noon (lunch provided)**

**Location: Stó:lō Government House**

**Please RSVP with Abby Duncan at 604-824-5316**



## **DON'T MISS THE NEXT**

**SXTA Chilliwack River Valley  
PLACE NAMES TOUR**

**SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2014**

Enjoy this new SXTA Placenames tour departing from Kwikw'álth'a (Coqualeetza) grounds destined for Sxótsaqel (Chilliwack Lake) through the scenic Chilliwack River Valley, B.C. Listen and learn about the unique relationship between the Stó:lō "River People", their land and their environment through the narratives provided by Naxaxalhts'i (Sonny McHalsie).

**PLEASE PRE-REGISTER FOR TOUR**

For catering & transportation purposes

604-824-2435 or e-mail:  
[Cathy.Hall@stolonation.bc.ca](mailto:Cathy.Hall@stolonation.bc.ca)



## **YOUTH FORUM 2014**

➔ **Youth Forum Photos clockwise from top:** MC Theresa Point with the 3 Group "Chiefs"; Theresa Point; Students singing dinner song; Winner of the i-Pod Christian Purcell.