



Meqó:s

"FALLEN SNOW SEASON"

Months of the year in
Halq'eméylem**January – Pelóqes**, Torch
Season**February – Temtl'i:q'es**,
Time when things stick
from the cold**March – Welék'es**, Little
frog season**April – Temkwikwexyel**,
Time for baby Sockeye**May – Tem'elile**,
Salmonberry time**June – Temt'ámxw**,
Gooseberry time**July – Temqwál**, Mosquito
time**August – Temtheqi**,
Sockeye moon, or
Sockeye time**September –
Temkw'ólexw**, Dog
Salmon time**October – Tempó:kw**,
Time for Chehalis Spring
Salmon**November –
Xets'ó:westel**, time to
store away canoe paddles**December – Meqó:s**,
Fallen Snow Season

SXTA

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty
Association UPDATE

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

Treaty Update

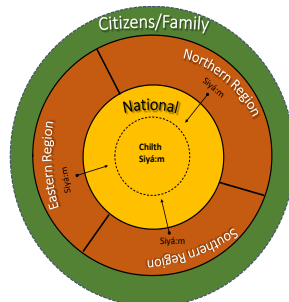
SXTA WORKSHOP



On November 19th and 20th the SXTA met again to discuss our future government structure and what services our SXTA government will offer. We also discussed some of the difficulties members have with services they are currently receiving.

Our government will have a regional level and a national level. The three regions are the Northern Region (Leq'á:mél), the Eastern Region (Skawahlook, Popkum) and the Southern Region (Aitchelitz, Skowkale, Yakweakwioose, Tzeachten). Each of these three regions will have a Siyam. The National level will have a Chilh Siyam. The three regional Siyams will sit at the table with the national Siyam to run our government.

There will also be an advisory committee to help guide all 4 Siyams. The advisory committee will represent Youth, Elders, Grand Chiefs, Hereditary Chiefs, Family Advisors and Cultural Advisors.

SXTA Treaty
Government
Structure

These are just some of the government services required for the SXTA's new government::

- ◇ Education – post secondary, including trades programs, K-12 and Access
- ◇ Health
- ◇ Substance abuse
- ◇ Understanding/awareness of residential school
- ◇ Policing
- ◇ Sports and recreation
- ◇ Mental health – grief and abandonment
- ◇ Elders and elders facilities
- ◇ Economic development – business management
- ◇ Employment
- ◇ Welfare
- ◇ Daycare
- ◇ Natural resource management
- ◇ Children and families
- ◇ Domestic violence – prevention
- ◇ Land management
- ◇ Fishing and hunting
- ◇ Traditional medicine
- ◇ Membership and Indian registry
- ◇ Forestry
- ◇ Family violence

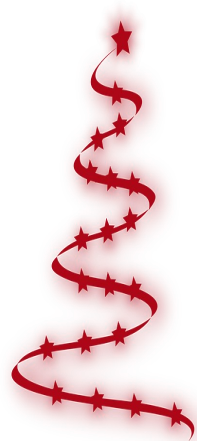
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Treaty Update from page 1

- ◇ Family law - Traditional and spiritual leadership practices and knowledge; cultural practices
- ◇ Dental
- ◇ Pre-natal, maternal – family planning
- ◇ Language
- ◇ Animal control
- ◇ Estates and wills, funerals
- ◇ Arts – music, dance etc.
- ◇ Homelessness – shelters
- ◇ Disability
- ◇ Transition housing



- ◇ Hospital
- ◇ Suicide prevention
- ◇ Tourism
- ◇ Home renovations/maintenance
- ◇ Foster homes/youth homes/respice
- ◇ Garbage/recycling
- ◇ Taxation
- ◇ Cultural or Spiritual site protection
- ◇ Job creation
- ◇ Cultural centre
- ◇ Protected lands



These are some of the difficulties members have experienced with their current service delivery:

- Lower quality than off-reserve
- Transportation – no bus routes
- Lack of funding
- Poor communication
- Culturally inappropriate services
- Lack of affordable housing
- Lack of support services in education and health
- Poor allocation of education funds
- Judgemental service deliverers
- Lack of access to sports/recreation programs and facilities
- Inadequate lighting on roads and sidewalks
- Non-recognition of title and rights
- Breach of confidentiality
- Non-response from police, fire, and ambulance
- Access to doctors
- Aboriginal children pushed through school, even though not at proper level
- Not enough cross-cultural training for education
- Cross-cultural training for all – general public - children and local workforce
- Lack of substance abuse programs for youth
- Limited access to post-secondary funds
- Lack of counselling and psychology
- Lack of daycare and affordability
- Bullying
- Inadequate funding for youth sports
- Lateral violence
- Funding for trade programs
- Poor 911 response
- Poor addressing of residences on-reserve
- Tutoring for services in school
- Lack of commitment from the youth/membership
- Lack of services for children who age out of care
- Lack of emergency assistance for those who experience loss through fire, floods
- Lack of services for PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder)
- Lack of service delivery back-up when staff on holidays or otherwise unavailable
- No control on sport fishing
- Poor relationships with external governments– such as municipalities, different levels of government
- Shortage of land and housing
- Poor house maintenance skills – no proper care of a house
- Lack of self-worth – poor habits
- Lack of rodent and pest control
- Too much dependency – get out of state of dependency
- Lack of crime prevention programs
- Lack of community willingness to report drug activity or crime for fear of retaliation
- Lack of support services to elders ie: grocery shopping, doctors' appointments
- Lack of capacity within membership for employment opportunities
- Lack of mentoring programs i.e. Big Brother/Big Sister programs



FUTURE FOCUS Youth Page

Mini Series: Treaty Refreshers 1 of 3



In these next couple of issues, you will see some "treaty refreshers". This is just to give you some reminders about treaty.

What is treaty going to get for us?

- ⇒ Certainty, law-making authority on our lands and resources, self-sufficiency and self-governance.
- ⇒ Conflict resolution with an agreed-upon process.
- ⇒ Protection of our aboriginal rights and title under section 35 of the Constitution Act (1982).
- ⇒ Protection of our culture and heritage.
- ⇒ Protection of our lands and resources.
- ⇒ Treaty gets us out from under the Indian Act.
- ⇒ Protection and enhancement of our health and education benefits (we won't be getting anything less than what we have now under the Indian Act).
- ⇒ Expansion of our land base.

What will the treaty allow the SXTA Government to do?

Treaty will develop better

inter-governmental relationships with non-SXTA First Nations and municipal, provincial, and federal governments.

How will treaty affect our access to and use of non-Treaty Settlement Lands?

Treaty will define and protect our access to lands for cultural and other traditional purposes.

With Treaty, we will be able to obtain control of and improve our access to what?

Hunting and fishing; education and training; child and family services; social services; healthcare; opportunities for jobs and economic development; justice and policing; land.

What will a successful treaty mean for the SXTA?

A successful treaty will result in a tremendous improvement in the way we currently live.

As First Nation youth, why is our involvement in treaty-making so important?

Youth involvement is extremely important to a successful treaty primarily be-

cause they are the ones who will be responsible for the future of the SXTA. The youth are our future and must have a say in how we create the infrastructure to ensure a thriving existence today and well into the future.

What can SXTA members bring to the treaty table?

Members can bring their valuable experience and traditional knowledge to the table. Participation is crucial.

We need to know the "on the ground" needs and wants from all members to ensure that the treaty will create or protect their future.

The membership must take ownership of the future.

What can the combined knowledge of the membership set for treaty?

Combined knowledge of the members sets the priorities in many areas including: culture and language, health, housing, education, family services, economic development.



*Submitted by
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**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw
Treaty Association**

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Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) Reps:



Aitchelitz First Nation— Chief Angie Bailey

Skowkale First Nation—Councilor Jeff Point / Chief Willy Hall

Tzeachten First Nation—Councilor Lawrence Roberts / Chief Glenda Campbell

Popkum First Nation—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—Councilor Sandy McDonald / Chief Alice Thompson



The last SXTA Upriver Place Names Tour

**Albert (Sonny)McHalsie -
Naxaxalhts'i**
Cultural Advisor
for the
Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty
Associaton (SXTA)
Narrator for
SXTA sponsored Tours

If you have any questions
Please call Emily: 604-824-5315

**New dates to come
in the new year!**



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 **Shxweli**, or “spirit, life force”. Hear about **Kwikw'alith'a**, **Sq'ewqéyl**, **Ch'iyáqtel**, **Th'ewá:li** and **Swílhcha**; special stops of interests include Cultus Lake home of a **T'liteqo 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 **Chítmexw**; 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 **Xweq'w'eyíq'w** for Echo Island, and many more **Halq'eméylem** Place Names.



STÓ:LŌ XWEXWILMEXW TREATY ASSOCIATION OUTREACH

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**HAPPY
New Years!**