



SXTA

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association UPDATE

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

Tem'támxw
Gooseberry time

Treaty Update

Treaty Settlement Land (TSL) Engagement

"...Never had a court say that Aboriginal title existed, until now (Tsilqot'in case)."

"Are we going to have less land in 50yrs available to us to settle in treaty negotiations or more land? ...reality is less land..."

"We cannot protect what we have unless we have a treaty, in my view, it's the best protection we've got against the erosion of our rights."

Quotes from Grand Chief Steven Point—April 22nd



SXTA Engagement Update:

On April 22nd, the SXTA hosted the first Leadership Engagement evening held at Tzeachten First Nation to discuss our treaty settlement lands of interest with our neighboring Stó:lō non-treaty First Nations' Chiefs & Councillors.

Non-treaty First Nations' Leadership attending this initial session were from Cheam, Yale, Kwikwetlem, and Sts'ailes.

After the meal Grand Chief Steven Point began with a discussion on the importance of being in treaty now. He mentioned that we have never had a court say that Aboriginal title existed until now (Tsilqot'in case). He emphasized that once we get a treaty that is protected by Section 35 of the Constitution Act our rights cannot be taken away.

He also stressed that the longer we wait to protect the land that is left, there will be less land available.

Grand Chief and SXTA Political Advisor Joe Hall conducted the presentation focusing on what our strategy is, where we have been, where we are going with our land package, what exists now, and what we are forecasting for the future.

He shared with the group that the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw treaty is built on three pillars:

- 1) **Self-governance**
- 2) **Self-sufficiency** – important that we aren't reliant on government handouts.
- 3) **Culture & Heritage** – protection of our language and traditions.

Our treaty is not like other treaties, we are blazing our own chapter language and we are not taking less than what we have now and not giving up things we have control of now.

In defining TSL and treaty vision we based our needs assessment for a sustainable community in accordance with our 100-year plan.

Land use in S'ólh Téméxw shows us the heavy growth happening already. Areas around the park and the valley floor, give us an idea of how much of our territory is developed and how much is left.

- * Without treaty, the authority is the Indian Act;
- * In treaty, it is self-government, and law making;
- * Without treaty, funding is the federal government, which is always declining;
- * In treaty, there are fixed finance agreements, diversified funding and revenues, own-source revenues (OSR);
- * Without treaty, Aboriginal rights under Section 35 are undefined;
- * In treaty, rights are defined and unextinguished.

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TREATY UPDATE continued...

From page 1...

With our treaty settlement lands we will have full control and authority with our laws, we are seeking shared decision-making powers for stewardship reasons. Tsilqot'in gave us a shot in the arm with respect to treaty negotiations.

The presentations were followed by various discussions on the treaty process, Crown lands and shared territory, treaty vs agreements such as Impact Benefit Agreements (IBA), and the interest for more meetings like this.

The next TSL Engagement meetings, now geared toward our neighboring non-treaty "Tribal" Leadership, will be:

Ts'elxweyeqw Tribe Engagement
Tuesday, June 30th
at SRC Bldg 10, 5-9pm

Tit Tribe Engagement
July 3, 2015
at Chawathil, 10:30am-1pm

Note: Individual Stó:lō non-treaty First Nations are welcome to ask us to meet with their councils as well.

CHIEF NEGOTIATORS MEETING:

- The **BC Treaty Commission** comprises of five Commissioners: two elected by the *First Nations Summit* (Celeste Haldane & Francis Frank), and one each appointed by the *Federal* (Jerry Lampert) and *Provincial* (Tom Happynook) governments. The Chief Commissioner is chosen by unanimous agreement of the three *Principals*.
- Despite BC's "11th hour" reversal in their selection for the Chief Commissioner position (which was approved by all principals), the BCTC will continue to operate within their mandate as the independent facilitator for treaty negotiations.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT (excerpt from BCTC UPDATE/Spring 2015):

- There are 65 First Nations, representing 105 Indian Act Bands out of a total of 199 Indian Act Bands in BC, which are participating in or which have completed treaties through the BC treaty negotiations process.
- Active or completed negotiations in-

volve 47 First Nations, representing 83 Indian Act Bands. This means that 41% of all Indian Act Bands in BC are actively involved in treaty negotiations.

- **A New Direction: Advancing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights** by Douglas R. Eyford – Joe Wild, Senior Official at Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) Treaty Branch will be gathering comments and feedback on this report. The BCTC Principals will be discussing the recommendation from the FNS to establish a working group for the implementation of Eyford's recommendations.

Te'mexw Treaty Association which consists of five southern Vancouver Island communities of Malahat, Scia'new (Beecher Bay), Snaw-naw-AS (Nanoose), Songhees and T'sou-ke (Sooke), signed an Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) on April 9th, 2015. 🦋



SXTA WORKSHOP UPDATE

On May 12-13, the SXTA held their quarterly workshop which focussed on Children & Family and Lands/Governance. A presentation on "Best Interests of the Child" was shown and discussion followed on



"What do you want to do?" Break out groups

then discussed which level of our government would be responsible for the various aspects of child & family care. This is an exciting area right now as we create our own systems incorporating our traditional values. We all have a responsibility to participate, discuss and try to think outside the box.

The second break out session focussed on land code and how we can

harmonize our codes and again which level of government would be responsible for various parts of land management and law-making. Other topics included: treaty and main table updates, law enforcement, additions & deletions to land package, and other Stó:lō First Nations joining our treaty. The next SXTA workshop is scheduled for September 2015. 🦋

FUTURE FOCUS



Youth Page

First Nation and Indigenous Studies

The next few articles for our Youth Page will introduce you to some programs that a few of the universities in British Columbia currently have to offer.

We will need educated citizens in many fields. Our Community and Public Services will open up numerous employment opportunities once treaty is ratified.

Universities offer programs to obtain all of the degrees/diplomas/certificates relating to the career you choose. These programs can take anywhere from 8 months to 3 or more years to complete, depending on which type of career you choose.

The following are just a few of the curriculums that BC universities offer relating to future employment opportunities with our Treaty. Take a look at the websites and see what could be of interest to you!



UBC Vancouver Campus First Nations Studies Program (FNSP)

What Can You Do with a FNSP Degree?

Wondering what you could do with an undergraduate degree or graduate training in First Nations and Indigenous Studies? Here are a few options! FNSP staff and faculty can offer more details about these and other possibilities:

- *Community-based researcher
- *University-based researcher
- *Community dev. worker
- *Inter-governmental officer
- *Community-industry liaison
- *Community-university liaison
- *Cultural resource manager
- *Rural development officer
- *Art conservator/technician
- *Arts advocate
- *Multiculturalism educator
- *Impact assessment officer
- *Youth worker
- *Archaeological fieldworker
- *Cultural artifact specialist
- *Documentary writer/director/producer
- *Fundraiser
- *Employment equity officer
- *Public administration
- *Community services analyst
- *Community program coordinator
- *Tourism consultant
- *Public policy analyst

- *Media consultant
- *Student/academic advisor
- *Museum curator
- *Administrative assistant (Aboriginal Affairs)
- *Community services assistant
- *Indigenous education specialist
- *Community support worker
- *Arts and heritage advisor
- *Education resource specialist
- *Environmental assessment officer
- *Resource management specialist



University of the Fraser Valley Indigenous Studies

Attainable certificates at UFV:

- *Stó:lō Studies Certificate
- *Indigenous Arts Certificate: Honouring Our Gifts
- *Indigenous Maps, Films, Rights, and Land Claims Certificate
- *Aboriginal Culture and Language Support Diploma
- *Social Services Diploma
- *Certificate in Extended Studies in Social Services—First Nations Option
- *Intermediate Certificate in Halq'emeylem

Check out the First Nations and Indigenous Studies UBC and UFV websites for more information.

Simon Fraser University (SFU) First Nations Studies

SFU

Other departments offering programs with FNST courses include:

- *Certificate in Literacy Instruction (Faculty of Education)
- *Ethics Certificate (Department of Philosophy)
- *Legal Studies Certificate Program (School of Criminology)
- *Social Justice Certificate Program (Department of Sociology/Anthropology)
- *Environmental Literacy Certificate Faculty of Environment
- *Counselling and Human Development Post Baccalaureate Diploma Program (Faculty of Education)

Check out the First Nations Studies programs website at SFU for more information. 

Submitted by Emily Kelly,
SXTA Outreach



Aboriginal Day
June 21st



**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

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—Chief Alice Thompson / Councilor Shawn Gabriel / Councilor Sandy McDonald

SXTA Downriver Place Names Tour

September 12/15

ATTENTION MEMBERS OF:

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

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.

We stop for 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.

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: 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 **Swílhcha**; 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 **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 **Xweqw'eyíqw** for Echo Island, and many more **Halq'eméylem** Place Names. 



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