



**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw  
Treaty Association**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2015-2016**

## Table of Contents

Message from the President	3
SXTA Organizational Chart	3
Introduction	4
Main Table Activity	5
SXTA Organization and Areas of Internal Activity	6
Summary of Activity & Outcomes	8
Treaty Table Record of Meetings & Events	11
Conclusion	11



Cover Design by Jared Deck, Tzeachten Member.  
 Photos from left to right: Land tour with Main Table representatives;  
 Meqsel Rock, Downriver Tour; and September 2015 SXTA Workshop.

## Message from the President

**Dear SXTA First Nation community members:**



On behalf of the SXTA Executive I am very pleased to advise that we made great strides this year in our progress negotiating our Agreement in Principle (AiP).

Our two biggest successes in meeting our goals for 2015-16 were (1) drafting the treaty chapters and addressing issues needed to complete this part of the AiP, and (2) moving our land and cash package forward with British Columbia and Canada who committed the resources necessary to expedite the presentation of a formal land and cash offer in 2016.

We engaged with our communities, and launched our consultations with Stó:lō and other First Nations, about our interests in Treaty Settlement Lands.

We continue to work with our community members, and with our neighboring local governments, to build stronger relationships and understanding of what Treaty is all about.

For us, Treaty is about relationships – it is the best way for us to gain independence and protect our communities, rights, land and resources. The Treaty will affect you, me and all of us – in a positive way.

We agree with Canada that our Treaty will be the fullest expression of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Treaty will be our release from the Indian Act. We are taking historic steps along the path of our ancestors into a better life, future, state of health and well-being, and relations for all of us.

We anticipate an AiP within 2017. Our AiP will be the key trigger for substantial community input leading to community-

based decision-making on our Treaty. We are on a path to completion. We expect to continue further down this path in the coming year.

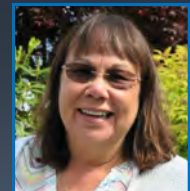
We need your participation and understanding. This will be your AiP. It is time to get involved.

We congratulate our Team – SXTA, Executive members, negotiators, staff and community members alike - for their substantial work and accomplishments in 2015-16.

SXTA President,  
Chief Maureen Chapman, Shwetélemel-elhot

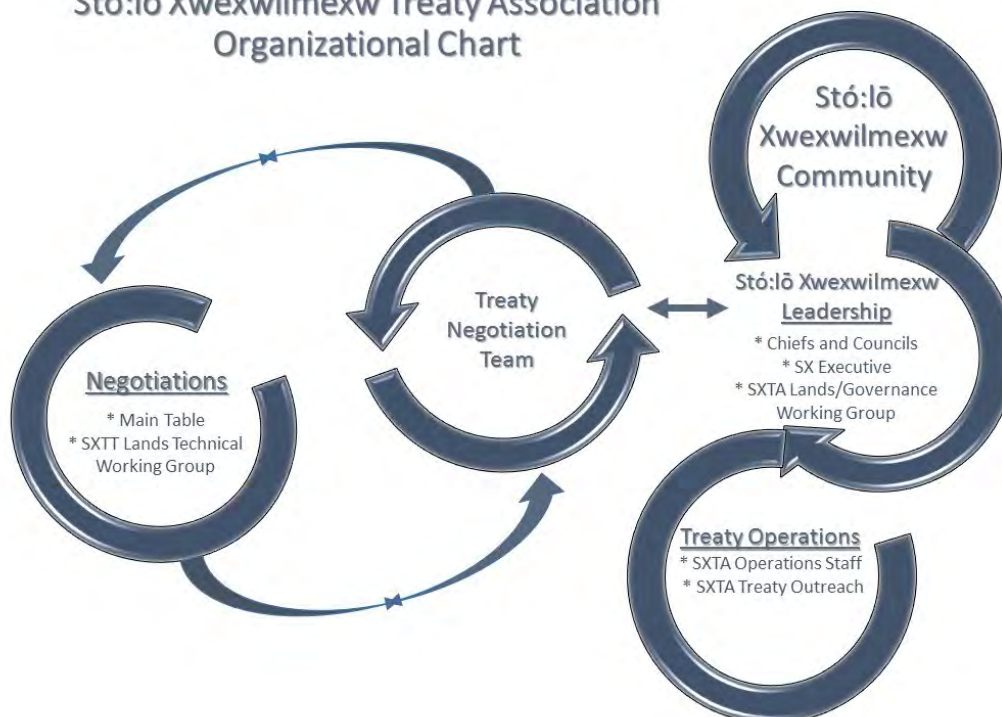


**Chief Angie Bailey**  
Aitchelitz First Nation  
Skemi  
Vice-President



**Chief Glenda Campbell**  
Tzeachten First Nation  
Chelotsowe't  
Secretary/Treasurer

### Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association Organizational Chart



## Introduction

In the 2015-16 fiscal year (FY) the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) aggressively engaged in the B.C. Treaty Process. Human and financial resources were dedicated to meeting the objectives laid out in the tri-partite work plan: Treaty Settlement Lands package development; finalizing our Agreement in Principle chapters; consultation with other First Nations; and local government relationship building.

The 2015-16 FY work plan described the SXTA's objectives, priority issues and schedule of meetings and activities for the year. Those activities are presented in this report.

Treaty related activities occurred at two main levels: the tri-partite and SXTA spe-

cific. The tri-partite Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Main Table negotiations and the Lands Technical Working Group focus on negotiations and lands and governance work. The activities of the SXTA specific Stó:lō Treaty Leadership meetings and workshops; Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT); technical working groups, Treaty Outreach Team, external treaty forums and numerous support staff and consultants support the work at the Main Table, ensure that Stó:lō concerns are heard and share information with SXTA communities.

The detailed accounting of the monthly schedule of meetings is on page 11 of this report.

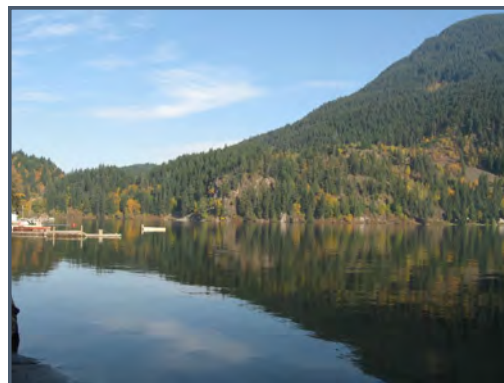


Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Table (SXTT) Land Tour



**"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."**

*Xwelexweltel,  
Grand Chief Steven Point*



Photos: left—Chilliwack River Valley tour; above—Upriver (Yale) Tour



Sumas Dyke,  
Downriver Tour

## Main Table Activity

The Parties – SXTA, Canada and British Columbia – engaged in 24 days of Main Table meetings and negotiations between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016. On November 26, 2015 a gathering, attended by Stó:lō Leadership and senior members of the federal and provincial governments, was held in the Stó:lō Longhouse to reaffirm each party's commitment to treaty negotiations. The priorities at the table in FY 2015-16 have been:

- ◆ Advancing the Land and Cash Offer Mandate and BC and Canada's processing of the SXTA Treaty Settlement Land (TSL) package;
- ◆ Engagement with non-treaty Stó:lō, other First Nations and local gover-

ments in an essential step forward in negotiations and the SXTA Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) is now at the stage where this work must be carried out;

- ◆ The Cultural Sites Protection Plan, as one mechanism for managing and protecting cultural sites off TSL;
- ◆ AiP chapter language.

The SXTA Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) contains 28 chapters. Adhering to the work plan, all parties aggressively negotiated chapter language to complete much of the AiP and 21 chapters have been sent for legal drafting or will be sent for legal drafting in the near future. These chapters are listed in the chart below:

<u>General</u>	<u>Governance</u>
Definitions	Governance
General Provisions	Eligibility and Enrollment
<u>Lands</u>	Local and Regional Government Relations
Lands	Indian Act Transition
Land Title	Approval of Agreement-in-Principle
Access	Ratification
Crown Corridors & Rights of Way	Implementation
SXTA Role Off TSL Lands	Amendment, Dispute Resolution
<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>Community Health and Well-Being</u>
Forest Resources	Culture and Heritage
Wildlife	Capital Transfer
Parks and Protected Areas	
Environmental Assessment	

It is important to note that legal drafting is an interim step that moves us closer to Treaty and that although the chapters are ready for legal drafting there are still outstanding issues to deal with after signing the AiP. For example, submerged and orphaned lands, child and family services, and some areas within other chapters require further discussion and negotiation that will occur once the AiP is signed.

Chapters that will be "punted" [negotiations after AiP ratification, during Stage 5], include:

- ⇒ Fish
- ⇒ Water
- ⇒ Resource Revenue Sharing
- ⇒ Migratory Birds
- ⇒ Fiscal Relations

## SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT)



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



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



**SXTA Technical Advisor & General Manager, Treaty Operations**  
Dr. Dave Schaepe,  
*Tl'elqtelemexw*



**SXTA Cultural Advisor**  
Dr. Sonny McHalsie, *Naxaxalhts'i*

## SXTA Organization and Areas of Internal Activity

In the 2015-16 fiscal year the SXTA's treaty operations six inter-connected bodies were active throughout the year. These include:

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

The leadership of the treaty association, providing strategic direction on all treaty operations, represented by the Chiefs and Councils of Aitchelitz, Leq'á:mel, Popkum, Skawahlook, Skowkale, Tzeachten and Yakweakwoose. Quarterly two day workshops in addition to the regular monthly meetings have provided the opportunity to discuss substantive issues in more depth.

**SXTA Executive:** Chief Maureen Chapman, Chief Angie Bailey and Chief Glenda Campbell, directing and guiding the activities of the Treaty Negotiating Team and the SXTA.

### **SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT):**

Grand Chief Joe Hall, political advisor; Jean Teillet, legal advisor; Dave Schaepe, technical advisor; and Albert (Sonny) McHalsie, cultural advisor who report to and take direction from the SXTA.

**SXTA Working Groups (WG):** Advisory groups formed of members of the SXTA or their appointed representatives, community members, researchers and consultants. The WGs inform discussion at

the Main Table with regard to TNT negotiating positions and the content of chapters being negotiated (e.g. Lands and Governance). The WGs acted as Steering Committees for Treaty Related Measures projects. WGs are facilitated by the Technical Advisor or other members of the TNT.

**SXTA Treaty Outreach Team:** The SXTA Treaty Liaisons are responsible for

and the general public. The Outreach Team works closely with the TNT. The Outreach Team produces a bi-monthly

SXTA Newsletter which is distributed to all SXTA community members.

Throughout the year, the Liaisons provide information and gather

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. The Outreach team has been working with Siren Design to update their website and other outreach materials.

### **Operational Support Staff & Consultants:**

All aspects of SXTA operations are supported by staff of the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre. Under the direction of the General Manager for Treaty Operations, staff assist in meeting the objectives of the treaty table and SXTA's internal mandates. The staff includes experts and technicians with expertise in: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and database management; cultural heritage and history; genealogy; library and archives management;



## Continued from page 6...

research; land use and environmental planning; negotiations; outreach; and finance and administration.

Substantial areas of work included involvement on the tripartite Lands Technical Working Group addressing land related issues such as land status, cultural sites protection and commonage reserves.

The GIS department has worked with BC and Canada to further develop and refine the Interests Module, review contaminated sites information, and explore mechanisms for protecting cultural sites off TSL.

Administrative and financial operations include monthly accounts payable and receivable; annual budgets and audits; preparing for and taking notes at all

meetings; and arranging for honoraria payments and travel. BCTC related administration includes preparing funding resolutions for signature; preparing and submitting an annual SXTA work plan; and preparing for the annual BCTC audit. Overall, SXTA's internal activities focused on advancing the land and cash offer; strategic planning; community outreach and engagement; and non-SXTA engagement addressing Settlement Land. These areas of work were embedded in the SXTA's activities at all levels of the organization.

The SXTA met regularly to provide direc-

tion for negotiations.

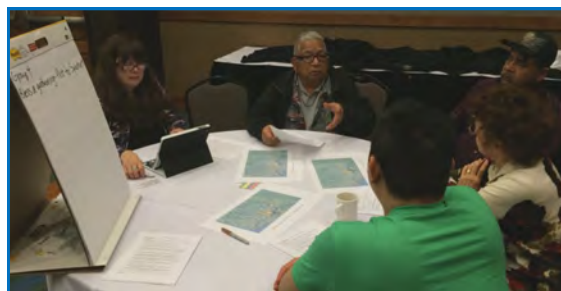
The TNT met regularly, often multiple times each month, to strategize and prepare for the treaty table and to develop updates for the SXTA.

The Lands and Governance Working Group (LGWG) was active throughout the year, providing key input into TSL selection, governance and the engagement process.

The Outreach Program (Outreach Team and TNT) was very active in relaying treaty-related information to and from the SXTA communities. Numerous meetings were held with communities, families and individuals and team members attended Band Council meetings.



**Photos: SXTA Workshops**



## Summary of Activity and Outcomes

The Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Table (SXTT) achieved significant milestones this year:

### Tripartite Main Table Working Group

The Main Table Working Group meets for two or three days per month to negotiate the AiP. Milestones include:

- having 21 AiP Chapters ready for legal drafting.

### Tripartite Lands Technical Working Group (LTWG):

- Completion of Treaty Settlement Land analysis;

- Cultural sites protection mechanisms and review;
- Updating and reviewing reporting mechanisms of the Interest Module.

### The SXTA:

- Submitted proposals for and received funding for two new Treaty Related measures projects: *SXTA Community Engagement Outreach Infrastructure and Materials Renewal* and *SXTA Programs and Capital Infrastructure Assessment and Identification of Needs*.
- Held an educational and relationship building workshop for Local Governments of the Central Fraser Valley.

presentations & pamphlets/brochures;

- Designing the SXTA Annual Report;
- Producing a Youth DVD on treaty;
- One-on-One sessions & Kitchen Table Gatherings with members;
- Participating in Working Group meetings & assisting with the annual SXTA Workshops.

### Shared Territory Issues:

- All-Stó:lō Meeting on April 22, 2015 was well attended by both SXTA and non-SXTA membership;
- Pilalt Tribe engagement on June 18, 2015;
- Local Government Workshop June 30, 2015 for mayors, council members and other stakeholders from the Central Fraser Valley;
- Ts'elxwéyeqw Tribes engagement on June 30, 2015;
- Tit Tribe engagement on July 3, 2015;
- Ongoing discussion with Yale First Nation to address issues arising from the Yale FN Treaty.

### External Treaty Activity

The SXTA spent significant effort and resources engaging in treaty-related activities beyond negotiations at our table. This includes participation in FN Summit Chief Negotiators' Meetings; the Assembly of First Nations and the Treaty Common Table.

## Outreach Team



Coordinator/Liaison  
East Region  
CATHY HALL, *Salacy*



Liaison  
South Region  
BRANDEE HALL



Liaison  
North Region  
EMILY KELLY



Liaison  
Assists All Regions  
JOY HALL

### SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team:

- On-going strategizing and preparations for negotiations;
- Attendance at SXTA Band Council and Community Meetings.

### SXTA Outreach Team:

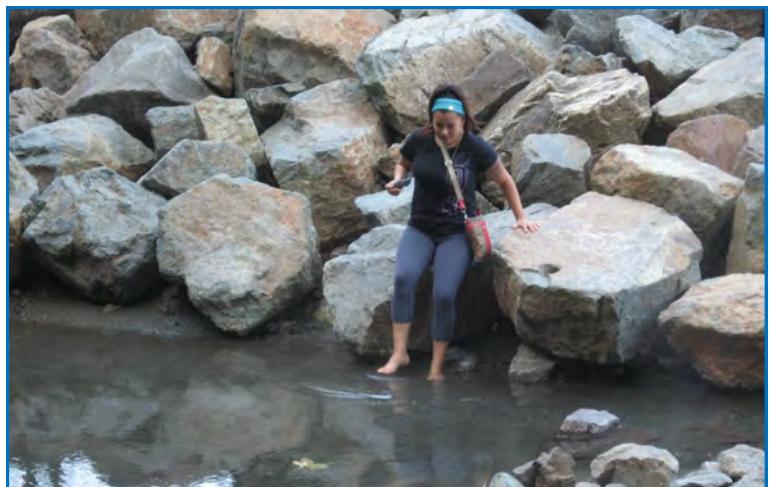
On-going work included:

- Producing and distributing the bi-monthly treaty bulletins;
- Planning for the re-development of the SXTA web-site;
- Organizing a Youth Treaty Forum for grades 10-12 aboriginal/non-aboriginal youth from School Districts 33 & 75;
- Hosting 3 SXTA Place Names Tours;
- Develop treaty information power point

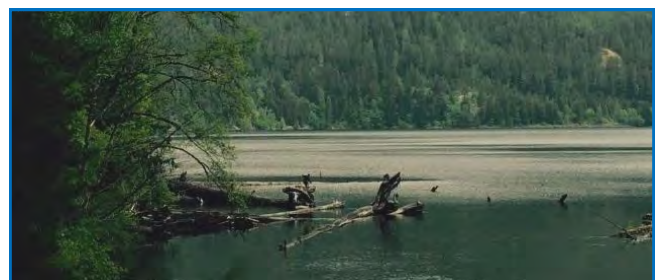
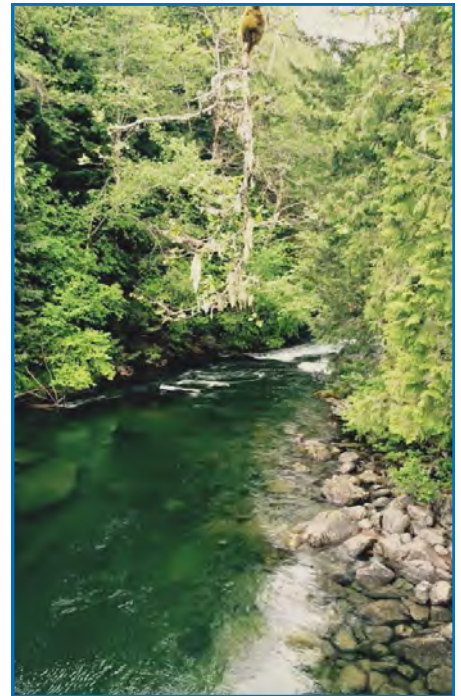
## Upriver Tour



## SXTA Downriver Place Names Tour



## SXTA Chilliwack River Valley Place Names Tour



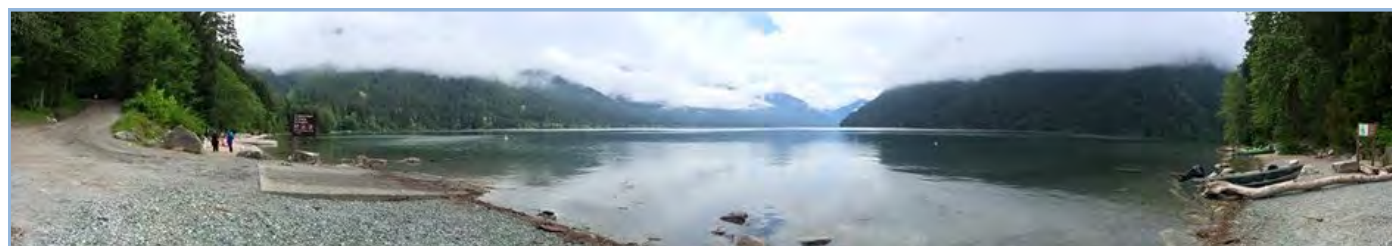
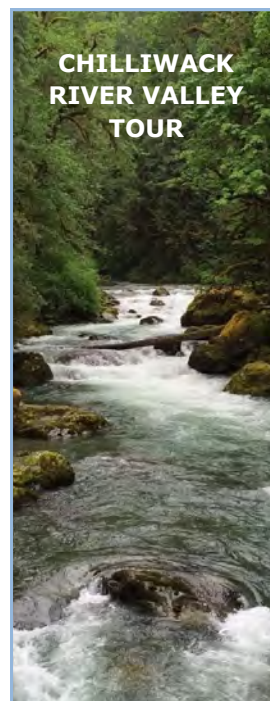
## Treaty Table—Record of Meetings 2015-16

### Meeting Type - Abbreviations:

Meeting Type – Abbreviations  
 Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Table – Tri-Partite Negotiations (SXTT)  
 Lands Technical Working Group (LTWG)  
 Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association Meetings and Workshops (SXTA)  
 Treaty Negotiating Team (TNT)  
 Working Group (WG)  
 Treaty Outreach Liaisons (Outreach)

Year / Month	Tri-Partite		SXTA-Specific				
	SXTT	LTWG	SXTA	TNT	WG	External Treaty Forums First Nation Engagement	OUTREACH 1 on 1; KTG's; Council & Community
<b>2015</b>							
<b>APRIL</b>	2	1 1 Line Ministry	--	1	1	1 All- Stó:lō Meeting	1
<b>MAY</b>	2	1	1 Exec 2 Workshops	1	--	1	1 TNT-Tzeachten 1 TNT-Skawhlook
<b>JUNE</b>	3	1	1 Exec	1	1	1 Local Govt 1 Pilalt 1 Ts'elxweyeqw	2 1 TNT-Popkum
<b>JULY</b>	--	1	1 Exec	--	1	1 Tit	1
<b>AUGUST</b>	--	1	1 Exec 1 AGM	1	--		
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	3	1	2 Workshops	--	--	--	3 1 TNT-Tzeachten
<b>OCTOBER</b>	2	1	--	1	--	--	3
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	3	1	1 Exec 2 Workshops	1	1	--	1 TNT-Tzeachten
<b>DECEMBER</b>	2	2	--	1	--	--	1
<b>2016</b>							
<b>JANUARY</b>	3	2	--	1	1	--	13 1 TNT-Tzeachten 2 TNT-Skowkale
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	3	1	1 Exec 1 Workshop	1	1	--	7 1 TNT-Aitchelitz 1 TNT-Skowkale
<b>MARCH</b>	1	--	1 AGM 1 Workshop	1	--	--	11 1 TNT-Tzeachten
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>53</b>

### CHILLIWACK RIVER VALLEY TOUR



## Conclusion

At the conclusion of the 2015-16 Fiscal Year (FY) the SXTA, British Columbia and Canada remain committed to completing negotiations for the SXTA Agreement-in-Principle in the near

future with the support of the SXTA First Nations and community members. Significant milestones this FY include:

- Completion of Treaty Settlement Land analysis;
- Engagement with SXTA, non-SXTA Stó:lō, other First Nations and Local Governments;
- Substantially completing the Agreement-in-Principle.

S'ólh téméxw te íkw'elò.  
Xólhmet te mekw'stám ít kwelát.

This is our land.  
We have to take care of  
everything that belongs to us.



Building 10, 7201 Vedder Rd  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4G5  
604-824-2420  
[www.sxta.bc.ca](http://www.sxta.bc.ca)