



## Huu-ay-aht First Nations

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### Tom Happynook, Member of Council - March 18, 2013 Executive Council Meeting

#### Portfolios:

1. Treaty Implementation
2. Fisheries
3. Intergovernmental Relations
4. Media and Communications

#### 1. Treaty Implementation

Continued to work on the six HFN Treaty Implementation Strategies:

**Maa-nulth Core Indicator's Project** - This project is intended to inform the 15 year review between the three parties: Maa-nulth, BC, & Canada. Data will be gathered on an annual basis within the organization. This project is now in the hands of the communications team and senior management. Our committee will monitor the progress on this project as it relates to the 15 year treaty review.

**Huu-ay-aht Values Project** - This project is intended to inform the staff and Chief and Council how we are meeting our nation's values or where we are lacking. This information will also be a resource for fiscal year planning. Data will be gathered on an annual basis from our citizens. This project is also now in the hands of the communications team. Our committee will monitor progress on this project.

**HFN Implementation Work Plan** - This work plan includes the review of the MNA Tripartite Implementation Plan along with each clause in the treaty. We are flagging specific action items for our government or staff where appropriate. This work plan is a rolling draft and will be shared with the applicable staff where needed through the liaison (Trudy).

**Benefits to Huu-ay-aht Citizens List** - this is a list that we add items to as we review chapters in the treaty and MNA Implementation Plan. This list is shared with the communications department to inform our citizens what their individual benefits of the treaty are.

**Issues List** - this is a running list of issues that our Nation faces as we implement our treaty, items can be social, political (internal to HFN or external with other governments), financial or other. We identify the issue, the person/group who can best address the issue and any solutions that person/group might consider as a remedy.

**Drawing down of authorities from the Treaty** – this is a list of the law-making and authorities that we can draw down from the Treaty in order of priorities.

The February 21, 2013 Tripartite Implementation Committee meeting went well. The new Federal representative Kim Thompson came with \$50,000.00 to go towards the Core Indicator work for the 15 year review. This shows that Canada seems to be more serious about treaty implementation. This is great news.

### Progress:

Trudy and I are making good progress on the treaty implementation strategy and workplans for each of the Directors.

### Emerging Issues:

Trudy's contract is not being extended into 2013/14. This is a real problem for me as I have no one to help me with treaty implementation work. I don't think our Directors have neither the time nor the efficiencies to go through the Treaty line by line in their particular chapters towards implementing the treaty.

**There just does not seem to be enough attention or money given to treaty implementation.**

## 2. Fisheries

On February 07, 2013 I had the Nuu-chah-nulth Seafood Development Corporation (NSDC) come to meet with the Executive Council to give an update on our investment. The NSDC is doing really well, the our shares in the company is growing steadily.

On February 12, 2013 we had a Joint Fisheries Technical Committee (JFTC) meeting. We worked on the summary briefing notes that would go to the JFC.

The Tripartite Joint Fisheries Committee (JFC) on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 went well. All the action items are being completed in a timely fashion by all three Parties.

On February 06<sup>th</sup>, 07 & 08<sup>th</sup> I attended the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) meetings in Nanaimo. This was a scientific technical review of the paper being sent to COSEWIC on the Species At Risk Act (SARA) listing for Southern B.C. Chinook.

On March 11, 2013 I attended the Barkley Sound Accord meeting in Campbell River.

On March 12, 2013 I attend the second Joint Fisheries Technical Committee (JFTC) meeting in Parksville.

On March 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 I chaired the Uu-a-thluk Council of Ha'wiih meetings at the House of gathering.

The federal appointment to the JFC still has not been done by the federal cabinet. This continues to be a problem.

The Federal First Nation appointment to the Pacific Salmon Commission has been done. Mr. Brian Askew has been appointed to the PSC.

The work on the Fisheries Operational Guidelines (FOG) supporting documents continues to make good progress:

- Enforcement Agreement,
- Catch Monitoring & Reporting,
- Salmon Harvest Management,
- Salmon Stock Assessment, and
- Shellfish

Our right to sell our fish commercially (like Tseshaht and Hupacesaht) is entrenched in the “Me Too” clause in our treaty. The Nuu-chah-nulth Fisheries Litigation Appeal went ahead at the B.C. Court of Appeal on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. I attended on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. We now have to wait for the declaration.

I continue to participate on the Maa-nulth Fisheries Committee, the Joint Fisheries Technical Committee, Joint Fisheries Committee and the Uu-a-thluk Council of Ha’wiih.

#### **Progress:**

This will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> fishing season under treaty. As we move along each year we have been figuring out the best way to catch our fish; process our fish and transport our fish to the citizens.

#### **Emerging Issues:**

The federal cabinet still has not yet appointed their official representative to the Joint Fisheries Committee. This is problematic as we can’t make decisions at the JFC meetings.

### **3. Intergovernmental Relations**

I sent a request to meet with Premier Clarke to talk about the proposed LNG facility at Coleman Creek. I received a phone call from the Premier’s Office on Wednesday March 06, 2013 informing me that the Premier was unable to meet but has sent our request to Minister Coleman’s Office to have him meet with us. I am still waiting for a response.

We had a visit from the Esketemic First Nation from Alkali Lake. It was a good three days.

I continue to attend the Maa-nulth First Nations Directors meetings.

I keep an eye on what the Assembly of First Nations is doing on the National level and will participate if there is a benefit to our nation.

With the May 2013 election coming up quickly, the B.C. government is in election mode.

#### **Progress:**

The negotiation with BC on the Reasonable Opportunity Agreement and Cultural Heritage Resource Protection Agreement continues to make progress.

#### **Emerging Issues:**

The 2013 provincial election is fast approaching and we should have a council get together to discuss the possibility of a change in government.

#### **4. Media and Communications**

We continue to work on our communication strategy and workplan.

I continue to do interviews with the various news agencies as they come up.

##### **Progress:**

There is good progress in our communications.

- The January 31, 2013 Vancouver community round went well. Although the February 28<sup>th</sup> community round at the Ramada Inn in Nanaimo only had two citizens show up.
- We have reformatted our three year strategic plan;
- We are using our website; email and social media to communicate.

##### **Emerging Issues:**

There are no emerging issues for this section of my report.