

**LOWER MAINLAND TREATY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

February 7, 2001

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the **Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee (LMTAC) Communications Subcommittee** held at 9:38 a.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 2001, in the 6th floor conference room, 4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC.

ATTENDANCE	
JURISDICTION	TAC REPRESENTATIVE
Village of Anmore	Mayor Hal Weinberg (Chair)
City of Coquitlam	Councillor Louella Hollington (Vice Chair)
Village of Lions Bay	Councillor Peter Stevenson
City of Port Moody	Councillor Meghan Lahti (arrived 9:41 a.m., departed 11:31 a.m.)
City of White Rock	Councillor Mary-Wade Anderson
LMTAC STAFF	
David Didluck	LMTAC Executive Director
Kirstie Pirie	LMTAC Communications Coordinator
Rae Ratslef	Recording Secretary, Raincoast Ventures
ALSO PRESENT:	
Rob Fenger, rjf productions (Item 3.1)	
Ellen Frisch, Consultation Manager, BC	

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 February 7, 2001 Communications Subcommittee Agenda

It was MOVED (Hollington) and SECONDED (Anderson)

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the LMTAC Communications Subcommittee scheduled February 7, 2001 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 January 3, 2001 Communications Subcommittee Minutes

It was MOVED (Stevenson) and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of the LMTAC Communications Subcommittee held January 3, 2001 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda Varied

The order of the Agenda was varied at the meeting to consider Items 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 prior to 3.1.

5. STANDING REPORTS

5.1 BC South Communications and Consultation Update

Ellen Frisch, Consultation Manager, BC Team South, reported concerning the status of Tsawwassen negotiations. The parties are meeting again on February 22 and anticipate developing a 6 month work plan.

9:41 a.m.

Councillor Meghan Lahti arrived at the meeting.

In response to questions raised, Ms. Frisch confirmed that the BC Treaty Commission allocates negotiations funds provided by the federal and provincial government to First Nations, and that

subsequent allocation and dispensation of the funding is at the discretion of the First Nations. Federal and provincial funding is distributed in accordance with the province's fiscal year and as such the next issuance to First Nations will be near April 1, 2001.

With respect to the Tsleil-Waututh negotiations, Ms. Frisch advised that the table is in the process of defining how "open to the public" will apply to its negotiating meetings and, to determining the related logistics. Confirmation was provided that all three parties at the negotiating table have committed to a "public" process. Other discussion at the table has related to the establishment of an Intergovernmental Working Group and the variable interest model.

It was MOVED (Stevenson) and SECONDED (Lahti)

THAT the LMTAC Communications Subcommittee recommend that the location of the Tsleil-Waututh treaty negotiations be rotated amongst the Nation's traditional territories.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion ensued regarding the concept of "public" negotiating meetings and concerning the presentation and distribution of confidential materials at and following such meetings. It was noted that past presentations from First Nations, in terms of their interests, have been quite detailed, but have been provided in verbal, not written, form. Various related concerns were raised and considered.

Suggestion was made that the Subcommittee communicate with the Tsleil-Waututh regarding the possibility of publishing some of their materials for public presentation. Confirmation was provided that the province has encouraged the Nation to make their documentation public.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to:

- a) *contact the Tsleil-Waututh to determine whether some of their confidential documents can be released given that they have received some public exposure;*
- and*
- b) *invite the Tsleil-Waututh to attend a Subcommittee meeting.*

Ms. Frisch also reported regarding the Katzie table, noting that a recent workshop to discuss the Fraser Fishery was attended by a number of the region's First Nations as well as provincial fisheries staff. The workshop report is not yet available.

5.2 Communications Subcommittee Chair

Given the recent change in Subcommittee membership, Chair Weinberg led staff and members in round table introductions.

5.3 LMTAC Staff

David Didluck, Executive Director, provided a verbal update regarding staffing changes in the federal consultation team.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to invite the federal government's consultation representative to attend future Subcommittee meetings as in done by the province's consultation manager.

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1 LMTAC Web Site New Features Implementation

Kirstie Pirie, Communications Coordinator, introduced Rob Fenger, rjf productions, in attendance to provide an overview of the LMTAC Web Site.

Mr. Fenger, referencing an overhead presentation, introduced the current LMTAC Web Site. Discussion of the Web Site's features ensued.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to:

- a) amend the Web Site as follows:
 - i) replace the scroller with a text box link to new and important information on the Site with direct links from that page to the related documents;
 - ii) alternate the photo of the lower mainland on the Home Page with archival photos of the area or promotional photos of the municipalities;
 - iii) locate the hit counter on the bottom of the Home Page;
 - iv) include the application form for delegations to appear at LMTAC;
- b) forward statistical information on the Web Site visitations to the LMTAC Executive and Board on a monthly basis; and
- c) clarify the relationship between the municipalities and the treaty tables.

4. REPORTS

No reports were presented at the meeting.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Implementation of Communications Plan 2001

Document titled "LMTAC Communications Plan 2001".

David Didluck, Executive Director, presented the Communications Plan 2001 as endorsed by the Board at its January 24, 2001 Regular meeting. The role of the Subcommittee in implementing the goals and objectives laid out in the Plan was discussed.

Kirstie Pirie, Communications Coordinator, referencing a diagram on the meeting room whiteboard, reviewed the projects identified in the Plan and the priority (high, medium or low) assigned to each. Members were asked to consider the high priority projects' and to participate in a brainstorming session around related issues.

Conference – High Priority

General comments:

- arose from the Subcommittee's desire to communicate with key stakeholders;
- purpose could be to facilitate a greater understanding between the First Nations and municipal representatives regarding a variety of treaty related issues;
- could invite federal, provincial, municipal, First Nations, public and media representatives, to explore ideas around issues;
- similar to a Community-to-Community Forum, could be called Community-to-Community Forum II;
- the name of a meeting has a lot of influence on how it is perceived, "conference" implies stature;
- calling this a Community-to-Community Forum opens doors for additional funding support.

A Subcommittee member suggested that the Subcommittee identify its needs with respect to the Conference and that it then determine the layout of the Conference based on the needs identified. The following related comments were offered:

- could obtain follow up from the first Community-to-Community Forum;
- clarify misinformation in the general public (even in active treaty jurisdictions);
- bring together experts from different fields to host workshops, and engage the knowledgeable public in debates around the issues to obtain ideas from the bottom up;
- create greater public understanding of treaty and First Nations' issues;
- shared expertise can be presented (i.e. universities, governments, etc.) on key issues to help cross-educate participants;
- panel discussions/presentations on various issues (involving First Nations and government representatives) on:
 - governance of non-Band members on treaty settlement lands;

- how First Nations fit into the Regional government framework; and/or
- regional checklist/topics;
- need to clarify the public's views on key issues of concern and educate the public concerning the treaty process;
- exploration of the development of education in First Nations.

The following additional comments were offered:

- What is the duty of LMTAC – to give advice to the provincial government on negotiations and how it affects our communities, the conference needs to focus in this area, under the LMTAC mandate;
- work coming out of the conference should mesh with the role of LMTAC in providing advice to the provincial government, ideas as to how First Nations could partner with local governments, i.e. parks, resource management issues within their boundaries, educational initiatives, etc.;
- could combine having a Community-to-Community Forum II into a second day that is a conference with various expert panels; and
- Subcommittee should brainstorm the information needs for the public to narrow down the focus of the conference.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the LMTAC Communications Subcommittee create a Conference Working Group comprised of Councillors Anderson and Stevenson to work with LMTAC staff and the provincial consultation manager in fleshing out LMTAC Conference ideas for presentation at the next Subcommittee meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to enquire as to the availability of the Ottawa commissioned PowerPoint presentation on the Nisga'a Treaty.

Ms. Pirie continued her presentation commenting on the status of several of the priority projects identified in the Work Plan. Direction was sought from the Subcommittee in terms of how the staff should prioritize projects.

Under Public Information Products, it was suggested that staff focus on the display boards at this time and that the documentary research and best practices manual be set aside, recognizing that they will feed into some other project initiatives. Clarification was sought regarding the intent behind the best practices manual and concerning its relativity to the LMTAC mandate.

Also, with respect to the documentary, it was suggested that staff energies be focused on more viable projects at this time. However, the need and responsibility of the government to produce an historical account of the treaty negotiating process in BC was noted. Alternately, it was suggested that a piecemeal video be produced from smatterings of existing main table tapes, LMTAC meeting tapes and Council presentations, with voice-overs, etc. or that a documentary library on available resources be created.

Request of Provincial Consultation Manager

Provincial Consultation Manager was requested to provide copies of relative videos to LMTAC for inclusion in its documentary library.

11:31 a.m.

Councillor Meghan Lahti departed the meeting.

Brainstorming around the remaining medium and low priority projects identified in the Workplan was deferred to the Subcommittee's next meeting.

6.2 Contract with rjf productions

David Didluck, Executive Director, reported regarding the status of the contract with rjf productions and advised that the requested changes to the Web Site and the ongoing maintenance contract could be continued within the previously set out financial parameters.

It was MOVED (Stevenson) and SECONDED (Anderson)

That the LMTAC Communications Subcommittee recommend that the contract with rjf productions for new improvements to the LMTAC Web Site and for its ongoing maintenance be approved within the existing Workplan estimate of \$6,500.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. INFORMATION

The LMTAC Communications Subcommittee received for information:

- 7.1 Statistical Summary: LMTAC Web Site; and
- 7.2 Honorarium and Expense Form.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Finance and Organizational Subcommittee Activities

David Didluck, Executive Director, provided information regarding items on the FOSC's next agenda concerning subcommittees' authority to reallocate funds within their approved Workplans and concerning their reporting structure through the Executive Committee to the Board. The meeting is scheduled Friday, March 2, 2001 at 9:30 a.m.

Confirmation was provided that the Communications Subcommittee Chair and Vice Chair would be in attendance at the FOSC meeting to represent the Subcommittee's interests.

8.2 Aboriginal Affairs Mandate

Councillor Stevenson advised of the difficulties he experienced in attempting to access the Aboriginal Affairs Mandate on their Web Site. LMTAC staff noted that a direct link to the mandate is provided from LMTAC's Web Site.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to provide Councillor Stevenson with a hard copy of the Aboriginal Affairs mandate and the internet address for accessing same.

8.3 Government White Paper

Chair Weinberg noted that the Executive Committee had passed a resolution at its first meeting in January 2001 to discuss the possibility of producing a White Paper with the LMTAC Board and advised that he would raise the matter for further discussion at the next LMTAC Executive meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The LMTAC Communications Subcommittee Regular Meeting held February 7, 2001 adjourned at 11:45 a.m.