

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

March 7, 2001

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the **Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee (LMTAC) Communications Subcommittee** held at 9:40 a.m. on Wednesday, March 7, 2001, in the 6th floor conference room, GVRD Offices, 4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC.

ATTENDANCE	
JURISDICTION	TAC REPRESENTATIVE
Village of Anmore	Mayor Hal Weinberg (Chair) (arrived 10:38 a.m.)
City of Coquitlam	Councillor Louella Hollington (Vice Chair)
Village of Lions Bay	Councillor Peter Stevenson
City of White Rock	Councillor Mary-Wade Anderson (departed 12:19 p.m.)
LMTAC STAFF	
David Didluck	LMTAC Executive Director
Kirstie Pirie	LMTAC Communications Coordinator
Rae Ratslef	Recording Secretary, Raincoast Ventures
GUESTS:	
GVRD Vice Chair, Mayor Hardy Staub, City of White Rock (arrived 11:48 a.m., departed 12:19 p.m.)	

CALL TO ORDER

Given the presence of quorum and the absence of the Chair, Vice Chair Hollington called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 March 7, 2001 Communications Subcommittee Agenda

It was MOVED (Stevenson) and SECONDED (Anderson)

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the LMTAC Communications Subcommittee scheduled March 7, 2001 be approved with amendment to include Item 6.4, Communications Subcommittee Schedule of Meetings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 February 7, 2001 Communications Subcommittee Minutes

It was MOVED (Stevenson) and SECONDED (Anderson)

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the LMTAC Communications Subcommittee held February 7, 2001 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. DELEGATIONS

No delegations were received at the meeting.

4. REPORTS

No reports were received at the meeting.

5. STANDING REPORTS

5.1 BC South Communications and Consultation Update

Kirstie Pirie, Communications Coordinator, informed the Subcommittee of the appointment of Bill Seymour as BC Team South's Consultation Manager. Mr. Seymour succeeds Ellen Frisch who

has moved to another position within the Ministry. Members were informed that Mr. Seymour was unable to attend this Subcommittee meeting but will attend the next meeting.

5.2 Communications Subcommittee Chair

No Communications Subcommittee Chair report was provided at the meeting.

5.3 LMTAC Staff

David Didluck, Executive Director, informed the Subcommittee of the appointment of Ginny Hasselfield as the federal negotiating team's Consultation Manager. Ms. Hasselfield was unable to attend this Subcommittee meeting but will attend the next meeting.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Communication Plan Status Update

Document titled "LMTAC Communications Plan 2001".

Kirstie Pirie, Communications Coordinator, reviewed the revisions made to the LMTAC Communications Plan 2001 as identified by the Subcommittee at its previous meeting. Specific information was provided on projects identified as high priority and concerning the status of requested improvements to the LMTAC Website.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to implement those features of the Website improvements that are currently ready, including the revised text box.

David Didluck, Executive Director, with respect to the Public Information Products/Tools documentary and best practices manual projects identified in the Plan, clarified that these have remained in the Board approved Communications Plan given that they would be internal efforts with no budgetary implications. It was further clarified that the documentary project will be a reference library as previously decided by the Subcommittee.

Councillor Stevenson reported concerning a recent Finance and Organizational Subcommittee meeting at which discussion ensued regarding whether Subcommittee's should have the authority to redirect project budget funds within their approved annual budget or whether Executive Committee or Board approval should be required. Further discussion of the matter is scheduled for the next Executive Committee meeting.

The Subcommittee was also briefed on the intent of the Table Specific Communication Projects identified in the Communications Plan 2001.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to send a memorandum to the LMTAC table representatives reminding them of the availability of \$200 per table for table specific communication projects and detailing how the funds can be accessed and for what purposes.

A Subcommittee member introduced for reconsideration the priority assigned to the Council of Councils presentation project. Suggestion was made that its priority be changed from "medium" to "high" and that the presentation be moved to the spring instead of fall Council of Councils session. Staff provided information on previous LMTAC status reports provided to the Council of Councils and concerning how the Agenda for the sessions are set.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for LMTAC's next presentation to the Council of Councils to focus on contentious issues of interest, including specific details regarding the LMTAC First Principles that are having problems, regarding precedent setting Agreements in Principle.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to approach the GVRD Board Chair to discuss scheduling a brief LMTAC presentation at a Council of Councils session as soon as possible.

6.2 Implementation of Medium and Low Communication Plan Priorities

Kirstie Pirie, Communications Coordinator, proceeded with a review of the medium and low priority items contained in the Communications Plan 2001 (presented under Agenda Item 6.1).

Concerning the Education Program Development project identified as a medium priority, Councillor Stevenson commented regarding teachers' responsibility to develop their own lesson plans on provincially declared topics and suggested various means by which LMTAC could offer teachers assistance with lessons concerning Aboriginal and treaty issues. Suggestions included:

- providing information packages, comprised of provincial, federal and local government materials, to School Districts for their further distribution;
- making a LMTAC presentation at a future teachers' professional development day;
- scheduling a LMTAC information session for interested teachers to attend; and/or
- making a presentation or consulting with the GVRD's Education Advisory Committee regarding a LMTAC presentation.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to compile a package of provincial, federal and local government treaty information materials and to draft a covering letter/report for distribution to School Districts and relevant post secondary department heads. The letter to encourage teachers to check the announcements page of the LMTAC Website to keep apprised of upcoming events they may wish to attend. The draft letter and package to be presented at the next Subcommittee meeting which provincial and federal representatives will attend.

Staff was further requested to contact the GVRD's Communication and Education Department staff concerning the mandate of their Education Advisory Committee and whether LMTAC could make a presentation to the Committee at a future date.

The Education Program Development project was identified for implementation in April 2001 and completion in the fall of 2001.

The Subcommittee proceeded to a discussion of the Stakeholder Presentations project identified as a medium priority. David Didluck, Executive Director, reported on the number of presentations staff normally make on an annual basis.

10:38 a.m.

Chair Hal Weinberg arrived at the meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the need to capitalize on the number of presentations that LMTAC staff provide on an annual basis by encouraging attendance. The Subcommittee also discussed the possibility of LMTAC attending and making presentations at other group's scheduled events/conferences, i.e. Native Investment and Trade Association and the Retail Merchant's Association.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to compile a list of upcoming events/conferences for the Subcommittee's review to determine whether LMTAC might like to approach the groups regarding whether a presentation by LMTAC would be welcomed. Staff was further requested to contact the organizers of the upcoming Native Investment and Trade Association economic conference in this regard.

The Stakeholder Presentations project was identified for implementation in March 2001 and completion in December 2001 or on an as needed basis.

Subcommittee discussion proceeded concerning the Internal Communication Needs Assessment project identified as a low priority. In response to members' questions, staff provided information regarding the communication needs assessment previously conducted with LMTAC members. This project was identified for implementation in May 2001 and completion in August 2001.

10:58 a.m.

Chair Hal Weinberg assumed the Chair.

6.3 Conference Event Planning-Steering Committee Summary

Kirstie Pirie, Communications Coordinator, referencing flipcharts, provided a presentation concerning the previously discussed LMTAC Conference idea that included the following proposed theme, objectives and agenda:

Proposed Conference Theme:

- To explore the co-existence of business and local government interests with First Nations in an urban setting.

Proposed Conference Objectives:

- To improve Local Government relations with area First Nations by focusing on economic development partnerships and opportunities (change negative or non-existent relationships to positive and productive ones);
- To raise awareness of the unique context of Aboriginal Relations in an urban setting;
- To educate on the unique role of LMTAC (large urban, local government); and
- (Unstated Objective - To elevate the status of LMTAC in that LMTAC acts as the voice for local governments in the Lower Mainland).

Proposed Conference Agenda:

- Two-day event to include social, cross-cultural event (i.e. dinner) and public information portion.
- Key discussion/presentation topics:
 - Treaty issues in the Lower Mainland;
 - Cross-cultural Integration – academic and First Nations perspectives;
 - Negotiating with First Nations – Business/Economic Focus (i.e. BC Hydro, Royal Bank);
 - Tools to facilitate business and regional interests with First Nations;

Proposed Conference Participants:

- Assembly of First Nations;
- First Nations Summit;
- Native Investment and Trade Association;
- provincial representatives from all government parties;
- Robert Nault, Minister, Indian and Northern Affairs;
- UBCM and other Treaty Advisory Committees;
- Related Provincial and Federal governments;
- Area First Nations and Local Governments;
- UBC and SFU and others across the province: University Presidents and/or relevant department heads;
- Senate Leader on Aboriginal Affairs (Gerry St. Germaine);
- Other Canadian experts on Urban Aboriginal Relations (i.e. Teresa Dust, Saskatchewan);
- International representatives (i.e. New Zealand);
- Federal Interlocutor representing non-status, off-Reserve Aboriginals within the federal system;
- Jimmy Pattison; and
- Fraser Basin Council.

Discussion ensued regarding the rationale for LMTAC to host a conference, comments included:

- identify tangible action items;
- act as a catalyst in bringing together interested parties (including First Nations) to develop the vision for the region's future in terms of economic, environmental and social issues;
- develop regional driven solutions from a community perspective (from the bottom up);
- discuss important issues specific to Lower Mainland local governments (Urban!);
- provide an opportunity for local governments to learn from business and social and environmental leaders;
- develop recommendations regarding possible economic development agreements between individual municipalities and First Nations (i.e. coordinated planning, participation on regional districts);
- educate and disseminate information and encourage open discussion of issues of mutual concern; and
- follow up on the Community to Community forum held in 2000.

The Subcommittee also discussed possible titles for the Conference. Suggestions for terms to be included in the title were:

- Lower Mainland;
- Economic Advantage;
- Urban Setting.

11: 48 a.m.

GVRD Vice Chair, Mayor Hardy Staub, City of White Rock, arrived at the meeting.

Subcommittee members then discussed perceived outcomes for the Conference and identified the following possibilities, to:

- discuss and develop a regional vision for local governments and First Nations to enjoy economic, environmental and social partnerships:
 - i.e. economic – bring in people to discuss their experiences with respect to developing relationships between First nations and municipalities in an urban setting (i.e. Campbell River and the pros and cons experienced);
- communicate LMTAC's role in the treaty process;
- educate and disseminate information (including case settings showing how they are/are not implemented in relation to the LMTAC First Principles) to a broader portion of the population, in particular the business community; and
- develop recommendations concerning modifying LMTAC's structure, i.e. inviting people who participate in the Conference to join LMTAC Subcommittees/Task Groups to capitalize on their expertise.

As an alternative to hosting a Conference, suggestion was made that LMTAC consider hosting a Community-to-Community forum focusing on economic and business relationships and impacts in an urban setting and that explores the co-existence of economic and cultural interests. General support was expressed for hosting a Conference or Forum focused in this regard, including presentation of case settings.

Staff provided information on related discussions in other local government jurisdictions, outside of the Lower Mainland, and concerning the possibility of accessing funding from government, the BC Treaty Commission and/or other sources for the LMTAC event.

Councillor Stevenson, referencing a folder of slides, provided a presentation concerning the Conference Steering Committee's discussions regarding the LMTAC Conference idea.

The Subcommittee's final agreed on ideas with respect to the Conference, as noted by Mr. Didluck on flipcharts at the meeting, consisted of the following:

- Conference Theme: To develop regional vision for community partnerships in the Lower Mainland.
- Agenda (1+2+3 = themes):

- Business and Economic (including case study, i.e. land development);
- Environmental (including case study, i.e. Fraser Valley fisheries management);
- Social (including case study, i.e. Urban, off-Reserve);
- discussion of lessons learned from each of the case studies to formulate recommendations to LMTAC for presentation to government.
- high profile opening and closing presenters;
- question whether one or two days in length
- Case studies:
 - focus on two or three practical examples;
 - are Lower Mainland examples; and
 - evaluate the associated positives and negatives.
- Titled:
 - “Paddling Together”.

12:19 p.m.

Councillor Mary Wade Anderson and GVRD Vice Chair, Mayor Hardy Staub, City of White Rock, departed the meeting.

Request of Staff

Staff was requested to draft a report based on the Subcommittee’s final agreed to ideas for the Conference for presentation to the Executive Committee (with Subcommittee members invited to attend). The report to be circulated to Subcommittee members for comment prior to its presentation to the Executive Committee, and the report to include several examples (and several levels) of potential Lower Mainland case studies for each theme area.

6.4 Communications Subcommittee Schedule of Meetings

Members discussed the schedule for the remaining Subcommittee meetings in 2001. No members expressed concerns with the previously agreed to meeting schedule.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

The LMTAC Communications Subcommittee received for information the following Items:

- 7.1 LMTAC Web Site Statistical Summary;
- 7.2 Correspondences; and
- 7.3 Honorarium and Expense Form

8. ADJOURNMENT

The LMTAC Communications Subcommittee Regular Meeting held March 7, 2001 adjourned at 12:32 p.m.