

For Immediate Release

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First-Ever First Nation / Local Government Lower Mainland Community to Community Forum

Burnaby, B.C. ... On September 14, 2000, approximately sixty First Nation representatives and community officials and leaders will gather to discuss issues of common concern at the first-ever Lower Mainland Community-to-Community Forum (LMCCF).

The Lower Mainland Community-to-Community Forum is the first, participant-driven event of its kind in the region to actively encourage direct dialogue between area First Nation and local community leaders. The LMCCF provides a unique opportunity for participants to exchange views, identify interests and discuss options for treaty and non-treaty approaches to issues of concern in the province's most urbanized area. The Tsleil-Waututh Nation (TWN), Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee (LMTAC), and the Lower Mainland Municipal Association (LMMA) are jointly coordinating, implementing, and hosting the LMCCF.

Discussions at the LMCCF will be related to intergovernmental relations and community building, with specific emphasis on how Local Governments and First Nations interact in an urban environment with respect to key issues such as land use planning, servicing, and dispute resolution. The Forum is guided by the following theme:

Together, Our Communities:

*touch the past
hear the present
see the future*

Together, We Seek to:

*understand and respect our differences
identify current and common issues
develop co-operative solutions*

For further information on the LMCCF, please contact David Didluck, LMTAC Executive Director, at (604) 451-6179. Or visit www.lmtac.bc.ca for more information on LMTAC and its activities.

"LMTAC works to coordinate and represent the interests of Local Governments and their constituents in Lower Mainland area treaty negotiations."