

# Update Bulletin

Reporting on recent  
LMTAC Activities

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### LMTAC Member Orientation Session:

January 16, 2009

### Upcoming Public Board Meetings:

January 28, 2009

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**LOWER  
MAINLAND  
TREATY  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

***LMTAC coordinates and represents the collective interests of local government, and through them their constituents, in defining and building relationships between First Nations and other orders of government.***

## HIGHLIGHTS

### LMTAC Expresses Interests in Common Table Negotiations

In response to the spring 2008 establishment of the *Common Table* for discussion between Canada, British Columbia, and the First Nations Summit on key government mandates, the LMTAC Board endorsed the discussion paper *Summary of LMTAC Interests Regarding Common Table Negotiations* at their November 26, 2008 meeting. The paper outlines LMTAC's policy positions on the seven issues discussed at the *Common Table*: Certainty, Constitutional Status of Lands, Governance, Cooperative Management, Fiscal Relations and Taxation, Fisheries, and Shared Territories. The outcome of these discussions will direct the future of treaty negotiations under the *BC Treaty Process*.

The paper will be shared with the Province for consideration, as it prepares a response to the BC Treaty Commission on the *Common Table*. Copies will also be distributed to UBCM and LMTAC member Councils and Boards in the New Year for information, comment and endorsement.

### Minister de Jong to Speak at Orientation Session

LMTAC is pleased to announce that the Honourable Michael de Jong, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR), is the confirmed keynote speaker at the Annual 2009 LMTAC Orientation Session on January 16. The focus of the Orientation Session is the *New Relationship*, and implementation of the revised Memorandum of Understanding between MARR and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) to provide a role for local government in the New Relationship.

All LMTAC elected representatives, staff members, and their colleagues are encouraged to attend. Formal RSVPs will be sent in the near future.

### Incremental Treaty Agreement Announced

On November 13, 2008, the Province's first ever Incremental Treaty Agreement (ITA) between British Columbia and the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations was announced. The ITA is a four-year agreement transferring approximately 63 hectares of Crown land and \$600,000 to the Tla-o-qui-aht as treaty negotiation milestones are reached, including reaching an Agreement-in-Principle and a Final Agreement. The Crown lands are transferred in fee-simple, and will remain under local government jurisdiction. The transfer is considered an advance by British Columbia towards the provincial share of a future treaty settlement package.

The Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations represents more than 900 members, located in and around the District of Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

## LMTAC BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**November 26, 2008**

At the November 26, 2008 LMTAC Board meeting, members received a presentation from Ian Howat, Director of Legislative Service, City of Nanaimo, on the *Newcastle Island Collaborative Management Agreement*. The agreement provides a role for the Snuneymuxw First Nation and the City of Nanaimo in the management of Newcastle Island Provincial Park. LMTAC members were also updated on the results of the 2008 Annual LMTAC Member Survey, and were briefed on recent table activities.

## NEGOTIATION UPDATES

### Katzie Table (Stage 4)

Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) negotiations with the Katzie First Nation remain steady, with 2-3 meetings per month scheduled until mid-2009. The land Technical Working Group (LTWG) met November 7<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> for further work on Katzie land selection. Parties met for a Main Table Working Group (MTWG) meeting November 19<sup>th</sup> with substantial discussion of the draft AIP *Role Outside of Katzie Lands, Environmental Management, and Water* chapters.

The next meetings are scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> in Pitt Meadows, with discussion anticipated on the draft *Lands and General Provisions* chapters.

**Councillor Mel Kositsky is the LMTAC representative to the Katzie negotiations.**

### Tsleil-Waututh Table (Stage 4)

The Tsleil-Waututh table continues to be active, with scheduled meetings each month. Parties met for a MTWG on November 4<sup>th</sup> for review and discussion of the draft AIP *Land Use Planning and Role Outside of Tsleil-Waututh Lands* chapters, followed by a Chief Negotiators' meeting November 5<sup>th</sup>.

The next scheduled MTWG meeting is the morning of December 2<sup>nd</sup>, followed by a Chief Negotiators' meeting in the afternoon

**Councillor Alan Nixon is the LMTAC representative to the Tsleil-Waututh negotiations.**

## LMTAC BUSINESS

### Committee Positions Available at 2009 Inaugural Board Meeting

Following local government elections on November 15, 2008, and the appointment of representatives to LMTAC by member Councils and Boards, the following positions are available on LMTAC committees for a one year term (except table representatives) and will be elected at the 2009 Inaugural Board Meeting on January 28:

#### Executive Committee:

LMTAC Chair  
LMTAC Vice-Chair  
2 'At-Large' Positions  
5 Treaty Table Representatives – 3 year term  
(Katzie, Musqueam, Squamish, Tsawwassen, Tsleil-Waututh)

#### Finance and Administration Sub-Committee (FASC):

FASC Chair  
FASC Vice-Chair  
3 'At-Large' Positions

#### Technical and Strategic Working Group (TSWG):

Positions are available on TSWG to all interested staff representatives.

LMTAC wants to thank all members for their service and support in 2008, and wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

*Happy Holidays!*

**This Bulletin provides a general overview of recent activities and major issues dealt with by LMTAC representatives. It is not intended to reflect all of the issues before the Committee. Any opinions expressed herein are solely of LMTAC.**

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