

Update Bulletin

Reporting on recent
LMTAC Activities

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Upcoming Public Board Meetings:

October 22, 2008

November 26, 2008

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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

Katzie First Nation – LMTAC Workshops on *Intergovernmental Relations*

A series of Katzie First Nation – LMTAC *Intergovernmental Relations* workshops concluded July 14th in Pitt Meadows, with discussion of Katzie participation in Metro Vancouver. Workshop participants included federal and provincial negotiators, along with elected officials and staff from Metro Vancouver, Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, the Township of Langley, and the Katzie First Nation. As an outcome of the workshop, both the Katzie First Nation and Metro Vancouver agreed to explore the possibility of a communications protocol regarding the *Regional Growth Strategy*.

Previous *Intergovernmental Relations* workshops were held on May 21st and June 9th, with agenda topics focusing on land use planning and servicing, respectively. To receive a copy of workshop agendas and summary notes, please contact LMTAC staff directly.

Cooperative Management Paper Endorsed

At the July 23rd LMTAC Board meeting, members unanimously endorsed a final revised draft of the discussion paper *Developing a Local Government Perspective on Cooperative Management with First Nations*. The discussion paper assesses the perspectives of First Nation, Provincial, Federal, and Lower Mainland local governments on the topic of cooperative management, identifying significant implications for local government and proposing several interest statements.

A draft of the paper was circulated to all LMTAC member jurisdictions and associated government entities on March 31st for review and comments. Following the receipt of comments, the draft was revised to reflect the perspectives of LMTAC member Councils and Boards. Copies of the discussion paper will be distributed to all LMTAC members, senior governments, UBCM and accessible on the LMTAC website (www.lmtac.bc.ca).

Tsawwassen Final Agreement Passes Significant Milestones

The *Tsawwassen Final Agreement* recently passed two significant milestones towards implementation. On June 27th, the *Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement Act* received Royal Assent, having been successfully voted on in both the House of Commons and the Senate. The granting of Royal Assent represents the final step in the federal ratification process.

The second milestone was the successful ratification of a high-level community land use plan by members of the Tsawwassen First Nation in a July 18th referendum. Community endorsement of a community plan was a critical component of the *Tsawwassen Final Agreement*, and provides greater certainty for community and economic development of Tsawwassen Lands.

Although an exact date is yet to be confirmed, the *Final Agreement* is expected to come into effect in the spring of 2009.

LMTAC BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

July 23, 2008

In addition to endorsing the LMTAC discussion paper *Developing a Local Government Perspective on Cooperative Management with First Nations*, Board members received updates on treaty table activity in the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley, and endorsed the preliminary 2009 LMTAC Budget. Members also received a second quarter update from the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation on *New Relationship* initiatives, including both social and lands/resources projects, for information.

During the in-camera session, members received a briefing on the recent Common Table approach to Treaty Negotiations.

NEGOTIATION UPDATES

Katzie Table (Stage 4)

The Katzie table continues to meet regularly, making steady progress towards an Agreement-in-Principle (AIP). In addition to the above mentioned intergovernmental relations workshop series, recent table works has included the initiation of the land selection process, and discussion of draft AIP *Land* and *General Provisions* chapters.

The work plan includes an average of 3 meetings per month until mid-December. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for September 16th-18th and October 14th-16th. A public community meeting has been scheduled the evening of September 17th, with details to be provided closer to the meeting date.

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

Tsawwassen Table (Stage 5)

Following the passage of federal settlement legislation in the House of Commons and the Senate, all three Parties have now successfully ratified the Final Agreement. Pending the Effective Date for implementing the treaty, Metro Vancouver and Tsawwassen First Nation staff are actively meeting to coordinate Tsawwassen membership on the Metro Vancouver Board.

Councillor Linda Barnes is the LMTAC representative to the Tsawwassen negotiations.

Tsleil-Waututh Table (Stage 4)

Parties at the Tsleil-Waututh table resumed negotiations during a July 10th working group meeting, with parties providing a general update on the status of negotiations and recent table developments.

The next scheduled Tsleil-Waututh working group meeting dates are on August 8th, September 9th-10th, and October 7th-8th.

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

LMTAC BUSINESS

Finance and Administration Sub-Committee (FASC)

FASC members met July 4th to consider a preliminary draft 2009 Budget and to discuss the annual LMTAC regional district update tour scheduled to occur in fall 2008.

Technical and Strategic Working Group (TSWG)

TSWG members met June 5th to review and incorporate comments received from LMTAC member jurisdictions on the draft discussion paper *Developing a Local Government Perspective on Cooperative Management Agreements with First Nations*. Members also developed a summary report on the *Unity Protocol* and *Common Table* in preparation for a Board delegation.

A TSWG meeting may be scheduled in late August or early September to assist with development of the 2009 LMTAC Workplan.

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.

For more information on the Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee, please contact LMTAC at:

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