

Update Bulletin

Reporting on recent
LMTAC Activities

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Upcoming Public LMTAC Board Meetings:

September 23, 2009

October 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

Update on Proposed Rights and Reconciliation Legislation

UBCM Survey and Study Session

In late June, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) circulated a survey to all local government Chief Administrative Officers and Directors of Planning, soliciting comments on the proposed *Rights and Reconciliation Act*. LMTAC prepared a guideline on potential implications of the proposed *Act* to assist LMTAC member jurisdictions in responding to the survey.

LMTAC members are also encouraged to note that UBCM is hosting a pre-conference study session on the proposed legislation on September 28th in advance of the 2009 Annual Convention. Session participants include the Honourable Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, George Abbott. To register, please visit www.civicnet.bc.ca.

Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) Announcement

On July 30th, the UBCIC, member of the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) issued an open letter announcing that it would no longer participate in discussions on the *Rights and Reconciliation Act*, which were based on the joint Province – FNLC discussion paper. It remains unknown if the positions of the other FNLC members, the BC Assembly of First Nations and the First Nations Summit, have changed.

Federal Government Presents on the Duty to Consult

The LMTAC Board received a special delegation on July 22nd from Daniel Ricard, Director General, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and Marja Bulmer, Department of Justice. Mr. Ricard and Ms. Bulmer presented on the Federal governments' *Interim Guidelines for Federal Officials to Fulfill the Legal Duty to Consult*. The meeting provided an opportunity for LMTAC members to seek guidance in carrying out federally delegated consultation processes with First Nations, and provide input to improve the process for local government.

LMTAC Executive Committee By-election

A by-election to fill an at-large vacancy on the LMTAC Executive Committee was held during the June 24th LMTAC Board meeting. Councillor Mary-Wade Anderson, City of White Rock, was successful in securing the position. Congratulations Councillor Anderson!

LMTAC BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

June 24th, 2009

LMTAC Members received treaty table updates at the June 2009 LMTAC Board meeting. Revisions to the LMTAC Operating Procedures respecting election procedures and treaty table representation were endorsed unanimously.

July 22nd, 2009

At the July 2009 Board meeting, LMTAC Members unanimously endorsed the draft 2010 LMTAC Budget. Members were also updated on a meeting between the UBCM First Nations Relations Committee and Minister George Abbott.

NEGOTIATION UPDATES

Katzie Table (Stage 4)

Progress in Katzie Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) negotiations continues, with recent meeting dates on June 24th, July 14th and July 15th. Development has continued on the following draft AIP chapters; *Amendment, Governance, Culture and Heritage, and Lands*.

Discussion has also commenced on the draft *Intergovernmental Relations* chapter, with provincial negotiators scheduled to meet with the LMTAC Executive Committee on September 23rd to discuss approaching to negotiating the chapter.

The next Main Table Working Group (MTWG) meetings are scheduled on September 22nd and September 23rd.

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

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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Tsleil-Waututh Table (Stage 4)

Bronwen Beedle, Cory Herrera and Judy Kitts were introduced as the new members of the provincial negotiating team at the June 19th Chief Negotiators' meeting. Parties met again for July 29th for a MTWG discussion, with continued negotiation of the draft AIP *Governance* chapter.

The next MTWG meeting is scheduled for September 15th, with agenda topics including the draft AIP *Lands* chapter. A Chief Negotiators' meeting is scheduled the following day, September 16th.

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

LMTAC BUSINESS

Technical and Strategic Working Group (TSWG)

TSWG Members met June 17th, for discussion with provincial government staff on providing a role for local government in *New Relationship* land and resource discussions. Follow-up commitments were made to have LMTAC present to a future *Integrated Lands Management Branch* management committee meeting.

In early July TSWG members directly participated in providing comments on two important policy initiatives; the draft Katzie *Intergovernmental Relations* chapter, and the UBCM survey on the proposed *Rights and Reconciliation Act*.

The next scheduled TSWG meeting is September 10th, and all interested local government staff are encouraged to attend.

Finance and Administration Sub-Committee

Following the approval of the preliminary draft 2010 LMTAC Budget at the July Board meeting, FASC will be turning its attention to the annual regional district updates, with visits to the Boards of the Metro Vancouver, the Sunshine Coast, and the Squamish-Lillooet regional districts.

The next FASC meeting is tentatively scheduled on September 2nd.