

# Update Bulletin

Reporting on recent  
LMTAC Activities

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Policy and Event Highlights	1
Board Meeting Highlights	2
Negotiation Updates	2
LMTAC Business	2

### Upcoming Public LMTAC Board Meetings:

May 27, 2009 [tentative]

June 24, 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

### Tsawwassen First Nation Joins Metro Vancouver on Final Agreement Effective Date

At the Metro Vancouver meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>, Tsawwassen First Nation Chief Kim Baird took the Oath of Office to serve as the Tsawwassen Director on the Metro Vancouver (Greater Vancouver Regional District) Board. Tsawwassen Councillor Andrew Bak will be serving as the alternate Director. Tsawwassen became Metro Vancouver's newest member as of April 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement effective date.

As a member of Metro Vancouver, Tsawwassen receives all the core mandatory regional services from the regional district, such as air quality, strategic planning, 9-1-1 and general government.

During effective date celebrations on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Tsawwassen also signed an entry agreement with the Greater Vancouver Water District. Tsawwassen is not a member of the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District, which is an optional service.

### LMTAC Provides Updates to Municipal Councils

LMTAC is undertaking a series of presentations to member Councils and Boards this spring, providing briefings on the status of Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) negotiations at both the Katzie and Tseil-Waututh treaty tables, the proposed *Recognition and Reconciliation Act*, and other aboriginal policy topics. Council presentations to-date include Maple Ridge, City of Langley and Pitt Meadows, with upcoming briefings scheduled with Surrey and both the District and City of North Vancouver.

LMTAC welcomes invitations from all member jurisdictions to provide updates on AIP negotiations and other topics of interest. For more information on arranging an update for your own Council or Board, please contact Regan Schlecker, LMTAC Managing Director, directly at 604-451-6198.

### Update on Proposed Rights and Reconciliation Legislation

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the Province of British Columbia and the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) announced the delay of indigenous rights and reconciliation legislation, pending further consultation with stakeholder groups. The Province has committed to hold a consultation forum on the legislation with the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) First Nations Relations Committee in the near future. LMTAC looks forward to participating in the consultation forums through UBCM.

## LMTAC BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

LMTAC Members received a presentation from the Tsleil-Waututh Nation on their *Stewardship Policy* initiative at the March 2009 Board meeting. The *Policy* presents several issues, questions and concerns for local government, and LMTAC is working with both the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Ministry of Community Development in addressing this topic.

### April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

At the April 2009 Board meeting, LMTAC Members were briefed on the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) *First Nations Relations Initiative*, and considered mechanisms for involving local governments in the ILMB *Initiative*.

## NEGOTIATION UPDATES

### Katzie Table (Stage 4)

Progress in Katzie Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) negotiations continues, with Parties recently committing to 2-3 meetings per month until March 2010. Recent Main Table Working Group (MTWG) meetings in February and March discussed the draft AIP *Finance, Taxation, Lands and Governance Chapters*. Parties also adopted a 'rolling draft' AIP to consolidate chapter development into a single document. At MTWG meetings on April 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, Parties discussed the draft AIP *Role Outside, Culture and Heritage*, and *General Provisions* chapters.

A MTWG conference call is scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup>, with MTWG meetings scheduled June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> in Pitt Meadows. The *Local Government Relations* chapter is included as a discussion topic for June.

***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.**

### Tsleil-Waututh Table (Stage 4)

Negotiations at the Tsleil-Waututh table continue, with Parties meeting monthly. A workshop on environmental review processes was the topic of the February 17<sup>th</sup> Tsleil-Waututh MTWG, followed by a Chief Negotiators' meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Parties met on March 10<sup>th</sup>, for a MTWG discussion of the draft AIP *Role Outside* chapter. Table work planning was discussed during an April 7<sup>th</sup> conference call, however April MTWG meetings were cancelled.

The next MTWG meetings are scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> in North Vancouver, with discussion topics including the draft AIP *Governance* chapter.

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

## LMTAC BUSINESS

### Technical and Strategic Working Group (TSWG)

TSWG Members met April 2<sup>nd</sup> for further consideration of the *Tsleil-Waututh Nation Stewardship Policy*. Members were also updated on several treaty table related topics of interest.

The next scheduled TSWG meeting is May 14<sup>th</sup>, and all interested local government staff are encouraged to attend.

### Finance and Administration Sub-Committee

A FASC meeting was held April 8<sup>th</sup> and members considered several agenda topics, including revisions to the LMTAC operating procedures as they relate to Board elections and LMTAC participation at the May 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) Annual General Meeting.

The next FASC meeting is tentatively scheduled on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to initiate 2010 Budget discussions.

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

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