

Shuswap Local and Secwépemc Governments Community to Community Forum

March 15, 2018

Salmon Arm, BC



Photo credit: Mike Simpson; Salmon River Delta tour, April 2013

Meeting summary as at March 21, 2018

Prepared by:
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Welcome, Introductions

Nineteen people from Secwépemc and local governments gathered to advance the development of a communications protocol across the Shuswap region.

Mike Simpson, Senior Regional Manager, Fraser Basin Council, welcomed everyone. Splat-sin Councillor Theresa William introduced Splat-sin elder Donna Antoine, who gave a prayer and sang. Chair Rhona Martin of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District thanked everyone for attending and noted her encouragement at getting to this point in developing a communications protocol. Mayor Nancy Cooper of Salmon Arm welcomed everyone and also noted her excitement for Salmon Arm to be a part of this initiative. Introductions were made around the room (see Appendix 2).

Review of Agenda, Objectives for the Day

The agenda was reviewed (see Appendix 1) and the meeting objectives were noted as follows:

- Review draft communications protocol
- Identify next steps for community input over spring/summer, and signing protocol in fall
- Build relationships
- Discuss giving a Secwépemc name back

Action Items from November 23, 2017 Community to Community Forum

Mike explained that with no feedback on the action items regarding the geographic extent, which Secwépemc organizations to involve, or whether Shuswap Band (Invermere) seeks to be involved, he proceeded with the draft protocol based on those governments and organizations involved in the two meetings in 2017. Participants noted that this is appropriate for many reasons, among them that Skw-lax (Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band) is neither part of STS Lakes Division, nor Shuswap Nation Tribal Council.

Chase Mayor Rick Berrigan raised the opportunity for the Thompson-Nicola Regional District to be involved with their Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), and it was felt that it was appropriate for Chase to remain involved, but not add the TNRD as only a small portion of that regional district is in the Shuswap and had not been previously engaged in the discussions.

An attempt was made to strike an advisory committee, but limited response and inability to find a date with a balanced number of local and Secwépemc government representatives prohibited this.

All other action items were either complete or part of today's agenda.

Draft Communications Protocol

Mike recounted the history of how we got here, with input from two previous sessions: a Together Shuswap workshop on February 15, 2017 at the Splat-sin Community Centre, and the November 23, 2017 forum at Quaaout Lodge. He emphasized that the draft presented is based on the collective input from those sessions.

The protocol was reviewed, and generally, participants liked that it was brief, non-legalistic, and simple. Feedback was captured on a few key points around the term, amendments, whether an opt-out clause is needed, and clarifying the Secwépemc spelling of the First Nations governments'

names. The seven items under “the signatories will” were reviewed, deemed appropriate, and nothing further was added.

See *Draft communications protocol v2.pdf* circulated with this summary.

Election Cycles

The cycle of elections was discussed, and it was noted that we collectively should avoid joint meetings, forums or events just before an election. The following was noted:

Government	Term	Positions up for election	Future Election Dates
Cst’elnec (Adams Lake Indian Band)	3 years	Chief and councilors	Next one February 2021
Skwlax (Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band)	3 years	Staggered by position	One councilor May 2018; one councillor May 2020; chief May 2021
Sk’atsin (Neskonlith Indian Band)	4 years	Chief and councilors	Next one January 2019
Splatsin	4 years	Chief and councilors	Next one January 2022
Local governments (regional districts, municipalities)	4 years	Regional districts – electoral area director Municipalities – mayor, councilors	Next one October 20, 2018 ¹

Giving a Secwépemc Name Back

The opportunity to “give a Secwépemc name back” to a place or structure was raised in the November 23, 2017 forum, and explored further.

David Lepsoe noted that in 2014, the bridge between Chase and Adams Lake Indian Band across the South Thompson River was given a Secwépemc name. This was relatively simple, since it only needed approval from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) and Adams Lake Indian Band, and approval was granted in less than 3 months. Funds were provided by MOTI for a plaque on the bridge.

David Lepsoe and Larry Morgan noted that an initiative is underway to give a Secwépemc name to Roderick Haig-Brown Provincial Park in the North Shuswap. This process has been underway for several years, and involves elders, BC Parks and others.

Theresa William noted that several roads on the Splatsin reserve lands have local names for roads, but they aren’t officially recognized on maps or by MOTI.

Nancy Cooper noted that their council discussed options, noting Dr. Mary Thomas’ contributions. Ideas such as Coyote Park, the new Highway 1 bridge over the Salmon River (symbolic as Dr. Thomas was a bridge builder between cultures), or using a Secwépemc name for the art gallery.

Louis Thomas was open to all ideas, but noted an opportunity to honour his mother’s legacy would be welcome, and to consider an event at Kela7scen (Mt Ida) in the future.

¹ School board elections are also held on this date.

Next Steps

It was agreed to have a celebration-type event, to sign the communications protocol, before the October 2018 local government elections. Due to campaigning, summer activities (holidays, activities on the land), it was agreed to have something in early summer.

The following is a list of next steps:

Task	Responsibility	Timing
Meeting summary from today	Mike Simpson	By March 22
Circulate updated communications protocol	Mike Simpson	By March 22
Confirm whether municipalities not here today are individual signatories (Sicamous, Lumby, Spallumcheen), or just through the regional district	David Sewell and Charles Hamilton	By March 31
Each government to seek approval of this draft protocol, and consider funding support for a signing ceremony event. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend approval based on consensus input at today's forum Avoid tweaks/edits; that could result in re-circulating it back to all governments again Raise awareness in community newsletters, media, seek community input as necessary 	Each government that is signatory	By April 30
Send logos of each signatory government for the final version to Mike Simpson	Each government that is signatory	By April 30
Invitations to the Signing Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusive of Shuswap community groups, businesses and organizations – utilize Together Shuswap attendance list as a start Each government to invite their members, constituents MLAs – Kylo, Foster, Stone Provincial ministers – Fraser (Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation), Robinson (Community Services) Federal ministers – Bennett (Crown-Indigenous Relations) First Nations leaders – AFN, FNS, UBCIC 	Mike Simpson, with support from everyone	Once the signing ceremony date has been confirmed – ideally
Apply for Community to Community funding (C2C) from Union of BC Municipalities	Robyn Cyr	Deadlines March 23 or June 1
C2C Forum #3 – Signing Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALIB has offered to host Possible dates discussed are June 29, July 6 or July 7, 2018 Consider a presentation on Secwépemc title and rights Discuss protocol, gifts 	Gina Johnny to organize with support from Mike Simpson, Robyn Cyr, others	Confirm that ALIB can host and the date by March 31
Consider reconciliation events, giving a Secwepemc name back, honouring Dr. Mary Thomas	Everyone	Future events beyond June 2018

Evaluation

Evaluation of the meeting, and how the communications protocol has progressed was positive. Discussion of the Secwépemc welcome, and how a non-native organizer should go about organizing a welcome was discussed. Some Secwepemc participants opined that Secwépemc people are all related, and it shouldn't matter; others suggested to go with proximity to the closest reserve to the event. It was noted that it's a good sign that we can discuss these issues and learn from them.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40PM.

Appendix 1 – Agenda

**Shuswap Local and Secwépemc Governments
Community to Community Forum
10:00AM-3:00PM, Thursday March 15, 2018
Prestige Harbourfront Inn, 251 Harbourfront Dr. NE, Salmon Arm**

Meeting Objectives

- Review draft communications protocol
- Identify next steps for community input over spring/summer, and signing protocol in fall
- Build relationships
- Discuss giving a Secwépemc name back

Time	Topic	Who or Format
9:30	Doors open, coffee available, networking	Informal
10:00	Welcome, introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ First Nations prayer, song▪ Elected officials welcome▪ Introductions around room	Everyone
10:15	Review agenda, objectives for the day, action items from November 23, 2017 forum, and timeline for communications protocol development	Mike Simpson, Fraser Basin Council
10:30	Draft communications protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Review and improve the draft	Large group discussion
12:00	Lunch (provided)	-
1:00	Next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Updated protocol based on today's input▪ Community input over spring, summer▪ Approval by councils, boards?▪ Signing ceremony?▪ Host a reconciliation event?▪ Aim to finalize protocol by Sept 30, 2018▪ Other considerations?	Large group discussion
2:00	Giving a Secwépemc name back	Large group discussion
2:45	Evaluation (verbal)	Everyone
3:00	Adjourn	

Appendix 2 – List of Participants

The following were present for at least a portion of the day.

Name	Organization	Position	Email
Arthur Anthony	Neskonlith	Councillor	arthuranthony@neskonlith.net
Brian Schreiner	City of Enderby	Councillor	benhogan@telus.net
Charles Hamilton	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	CAO	chamilton@csrd.bc.ca
David Lepsoe	Village of Chase	Councillor	david.lepsoe@chasebc.ca
David Sewell	Regional District of North Okanagan	CAO	david.sewell@rdno.ca
Donna Antoine	Splatsin	Elder	
Erin Jackson	City of Salmon Arm	Corporate Officer	ejackson@salmonarm.ca
Gina Johnny	Adams Lake Indian Band	Councillor	gjohnny@alib.ca
Joni Heinrich	Village of Chase	CAO	cao@chasebc.ca
Larry Morgan	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Director Area 'F'	lmorgan@csrd.bc.ca
Louis Thomas	Neskonlith	Councillor	louisthomas@neskonlith.net
Mike Simpson	Fraser Basin Council	Facilitator, recorder	msimpson@fraserbasin.bc.ca
Nancy Cooper	City of Salmon Arm	Councillor	ncooper@salmonarm.ca
Paul Demenok	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Director Area 'C'	pdemenok@csrd.bc.ca
Rene Talbot	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Director Area 'D'	rtalbot@csrd.bc.ca
Rhona Martin	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Chair, Director Area 'E'	rmartin@csrd.bc.ca
Robyn Cyr	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Manager	rcyr@csrd.bc.ca
Shawna William	Splatsin	Member	
Theresa William	Splatsin	Councillor	theresa_william@splatsin.ca
Wes Francois	Little Shuswap Lake Indian Band	Councillor	wfrancois@lslib.com