

Update Bulletin

Reporting on LMTAC Activities
November - December 2000

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Upcoming Public Meeting: January 24, 2001*

*This meeting will feature Elections for all LMTAC Executive and Sub-Committee positions, with the exception of table representatives which are three-year term positions.

Did you know that you can now access both meeting information and policy documents on the LMTAC web site?

Visit us at:

www.lmtac.bc.ca

**LOWER
MAINLAND
TREATY
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

LMTAC works to coordinate and represent the interests of Local Governments and their constituents in Lower Mainland area treaty negotiations.

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

YEAR IN REVIEW

A Few Highlights from 2000

- **Workshops with BC Team South Regarding LMTAC First Principles**

After finalizing the LMTAC First Principles in 1999 and subsequently endorsing the new principles with the integrated Considerations Paper, LMTAC met with BC Team South in June and December to better understand their mandates and explain LMTAC's interests.

- **New and Independent Web Site (www.lmtac.bc.ca)**

Our new and improved web site now features policy papers (i.e. Governance Paper and Workshop Transcripts), media releases, meeting schedules, agendas and minutes. As a key goal of the Communications Sub-Committee (CSC), the site now provides easily accessible information for both LMTAC members and the public interested in learning more about the committee.

- **Lower Mainland Community-to-Community Forum**

On September 14, 2000, approximately 50 First Nation representatives and community officials and leaders gathered to discuss issues of common concern at the successful first-ever Lower Mainland Community-to-Community Forum.



Representatives from Musqueam First Nation, City of Coquitlam, City of Surrey, District of North Vancouver, Township of Langley, and Tsawwassen First Nation participate in Community-to-Community Forum discussion group.

- **New LMTAC Workshops and Joint Meetings**

These included the BC Hydro Aboriginal Relations Workshops in February and May, Joint Meeting with Fraser Valley TAC in October, and a Workshop to Discuss First Nation Participation on Regional Districts in October.

- **Organizational/Operational Enhancements**

The Finance and Organizational Sub-Committee (FOSC) along with LMTAC staff oversaw: the development of new financial policies, an increase to LMTAC funding revenues and staffing, and the streamlining of agenda packages.

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATES

Katzie First Nation (Stage 4)

Working Groups were held in November and December 2000 to discuss topics related to Water, Environmental Management and Intergovernmental Relations. Several LMTAC members attended the Katzie Intergovernmental Working Group on November 24 following from a request of Katzie to open the meeting to municipalities within its Statement of Intent area. Negotiation meetings have been scheduled into June 2001 and a Main Table is tentatively scheduled for May 2001.

Councillor Candace Gordon is the LMTAC representative to the Katzie negotiations.

Musqueam First Nation (Stage 3)

Further table work is on hold pending Musqueam consideration of issues related to the negotiation of compensation and ratification of the Framework. The Tripartite working group has drafted Procedures Agreement for Stage 4. No further negotiation meetings or activities have been scheduled.

Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt is the LMTAC representative to the Musqueam negotiations.

Squamish Nation (Stage 3)

No activity has occurred at the Squamish table since February 1998 when LMTAC provided provincial negotiators with comments on a draft of the Framework Agreement. No further treaty-related meetings are scheduled at present.

Mayor Corinne Lonsdale is the LMTAC representative to the Squamish negotiations.

Tsawwassen First Nation (Stage 4)

On November 30, Delta hosted a Public Information Meeting on Tsawwassen Treaty Negotiations. The Corporation of Delta, Tsawwassen First Nation, British Columbia and Canada all made presentations regarding their perspectives on treaty-making. Following, the floor was opened to allow members of the audience to ask questions or share various perspectives with the presenters. This event was well-attended and, as such, subsequent meetings will be held in the future.

Following from the July 28, 2000 Tsawwassen Treaty Negotiation Proposal which summarized the community's interests to date on the key issues under negotiation, Tsawwassen now seeks a formal response by the federal and provincial governments, in the form of a counter-proposal. The original counter-proposal date of December 2000 has been postponed until 2001.

Should Tsawwassen accept the counter-proposal, it is anticipated that the process of chapter development (Stage 4 of the Agreement-in-Principle) will begin.

Councillor Vicki Huntington is the LMTAC representative to the Tsawwassen negotiations.

Tsleil-Waututh First Nation (Stage 4)

At the December 5, 2000 Main Table, the Tsleil-Waututh Nation (TWN) delivered a presentation on their key principles and approaches to treaty negotiations, based on their public document entitled *A Future for the People of the Inlet*. Side Table meetings have been scheduled into June 2001.

Mayor Don Bell is the LMTAC representative to the Tsleil-Waututh negotiations.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

LMTAC Web Site

Following endorsement at the LMTAC Board Meeting on November 22, 2000, the following documents are now publicly available from the LMTAC web site:

- Transcript from the *Workshop to Discuss First Nation Participation on Regional Districts Transcript*
- Report on *Local Government Issues Regarding Urban Aboriginal Peoples*, and
- Report on *An Incremental and Measured Approach to Reconciliation*.

Promotional LMTAC web cards are available from the LMTAC office by calling (604) 451-6179.

Table Updates for Member Council/Boards

In fall 2000 LMTAC completed a tour of three jurisdictions to Delta, Surrey and Richmond. LMTAC with representatives from BC Team South commenced a tour of those municipalities most affected by the Tsawwassen treaty negotiations. These presentations are follow-up to the introductory presentations made to all member councils and boards in 1998/99.

BC Treaty Commission Interactive Display

The BCTC has developed an interactive display using touch screen technology that helps to answer questions about treaty negotiations from a number of different perspectives. Several LMTAC members have already hosted the display, including West Vancouver, Ladner, North Vancouver City, Surrey and the GVRD. If your community is interested in hosting this display in a high-traffic location, such as a municipal hall, please contact the LMTAC office at (604) 451-6179.

LMTAC BIZ

UBCM/Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs Protocol Agreement on Interim Measures and Treaty-Related Measures

At the December 13 Executive meeting, LMTAC members and UBCM staff discussed approaches to implementing the new Protocol Agreement. Following, the LMTAC Chair encouraged all member jurisdictions to name their LMTAC representative as both the designated Interim Measures and Treaty Related Measures contact. This will help to ensure that all treaty and related issues are focused through the LMTAC tables and representatives.

Fewer Agendas / Less Paper

Commencing with the November 22, 2000 LMTAC Board meeting, the LMTAC office will send out only two agenda packages to each member jurisdiction. This measure will help reduce costs and paper used for the production and distribution of the LMTAC Full Board agendas.

LOWER MAINLAND ADVISORY GROUPS

Regional Caucus

Meeting locations have alternated between Victoria and Vancouver. Representatives from the Lower Mainland TAC, the Fraser Valley TAC, various BC line ministries, Crown Corporations, and the BC South Team attended these meetings.

Regional Caucus created as a forum for provincial line ministries, Crown Corporations, and local governments to discuss key treaty and Aboriginal issues.

Lower Mainland Regional Advisory Committee (LMRAC)

The first LMRAC meeting in close to a year was held on November 2, 2000 at the Federal Treaty Negotiation Office, Vancouver. Key items of business included a review of the December 8, 1999 LMRAC meeting notes and updates on the five Lower Mainland treaty tables.

Consultation Groups have met in place of the LMRAC to consult specifically on the Tsawwassen and Tsleil-Waututh negotiations.

Fraser Valley Treaty Advisory Committee (FVTAC)

On November 28, 2000, FVTAC hosted a workshop with BC South to discuss issues relating to Servicing Agreements between Local Governments and First Nations and the potential impact of treaties on those agreements. The outcome of the Workshop was the recommendation that a sub-committee to continue to consider the topics of taxation, servicing and non-member representation be struck in the new year.

In terms of negotiations, Yale Working Group negotiation sessions are planned for late January and February and will include such topics as eligibility and enrollment, wildlife and taxation. A recent Regional Advisory Committee meeting featured a presentation by Chief Hope on the Yale Governance Model which is being created to address the unique needs of self-government in a smaller First Nation.

The Sto:lo First Nation met with BC and Canada in October and the table has shown some indication of progress. Working Group Table negotiations will begin in earnest in the new year with sessions open to the public.

The In-SHUCK-ch table has not met for over a year. The N'Quat'qua people have withdrawn from the joint tribal council and from the treaty as a result of a referendum, and although the remaining southern In-SHUCK-ch bands have committed to continuing the treaty, no meetings have been set.

On November 30, 2000, the District of Kent hosted a historic and unique Community to Community Forum with four neighbouring First Nation governments and council members from the Village Harrison Hot Springs. FVTAC co-sponsored the event which featured a roundtable discussion on local concerns about the Fraser River. Outcomes of the session include a planned January meeting to consider how to implement recommendations on relationship building.

For more information on FVTAC activities, please contact Tamara Little, FVTAC Aboriginal Affairs Coordinator, 1-800-528-0062.

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 the Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee.

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