

JANUARY 1998 UPDATE BULLETIN

This monthly bulletin is intended to provide a general overview of recent activities and major issues dealt with by Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee representatives. It is not intended, nor should it be relied upon, to reflect all of the issues before the Committee or its representatives. For additional information, please contact Jan Gibson at the LMTAC Office 451-6179 or 436-6860 (fax).

1. LOWER MAINLAND TREATY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LMTAC) MAJOR ITEMS OF BUSINESS

NOVEMBER LMTAC MEETING - The TAC.....

OCTOBER LMTAC MEETING - There was no meeting of the full LMTAC during the month of October as the meeting date coincided with the UBCM Convention.

2. NEGOTIATION UPDATE

LITIGATION INVOLVING CANADA AND THE MUSQUEAM, TSLEIL-WAUTUTH, AND SQUAMISH BANDS - REFERRED TO AS THE "I.R. #6 LITIGATION" CONTINUES. HOWEVER, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN FOLLOWING THROUGH ON ITS COMMITMENT TO REVIEW THE NEGOTIATIONS AFTER THE FIRST (EVIDENTIARY) PHASE OF LITIGATION HAS DETERMINED THAT THE FEDERAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS OFFICE (FTNO) CAN PROCEED WITH FULL NEGOTIATION WITH THE THREE BANDS INVOLVED.

KATZIE - The British Columbia Treaty Commission (BCTC) declared the Katzie Band ready to negotiate on December 1, 1996. A tripartite readiness Main Table meeting was convened by BCTC on February 20, 1997. Tripartite Working Group meetings relating to readiness were held on March 7 and on April 3, 1997 to discuss tripartite procedures. The Katzie treaty team provided Canada and British Columbia with a written proposal for the formation of a local advisory group. The details pertaining to the Terms of Reference for a local advisory group will be set out in the Procedural Protocol documents. To date no further meeting have been scheduled for negotiations with Katzie. Councillor Candace Gordon is the LMTAC Representative to these negotiations.

MUSQUEAM -Following the decision by Canada relative to the I.R. #6 litigation, Musqueam can proceed with full negotiations. On May 23, 1997, the Openness Protocol was signed by British Columbia, Canada and Musqueam in a Signing Ceremony. Canada and British Columbia tabled several sample Framework Agreements at working group meetings held in May. The parties have exchanged comments on draft # 3 of the Framework Agreement and are waiting for Draft #4 to be circulated. To date no further meetings have been scheduled for negotiations with Musqueam. Councillor Nancy A. Chiavario is the LMTAC Representative to these negotiations.

SQUAMISH - Following the decision by Canada relative to the I.R. #6 litigation, Squamish can proceed with full negotiations. A Main Table was held on October 28. No agreement on the Framework Agreement was reached as there are a few outstanding issues to be resolved by the Working Group. No further negotiations or working group meetings have been scheduled at this time. Mayor Corinne Lonsdale is the LMTAC Representative to these negotiations.

TSAWWASSEN - British Columbia, Canada and Tsawwassen signed a Framework Agreement and Procedures for Stage 4 Agreement-In-Principle negotiations during a "Signing Ceremony" on August 2, 1997. A draft Tripartite Stage 4 Work Plan was approved as a guide to AIP negotiations during a Main Table on September 19, 1997. Further Main Tables are scheduled for November 6 and November 27. Councillor Vicki Huntington is the LMTAC Representative to these negotiations.

TSLEIL-WAUTUTH (BURREARD) - The Framework Agreement for the Tsleil-Waututh was signed on March 5, 1997, and Stage 4 Agreement-in-Principle negotiations began in April. Following the decision by Canada relative to the I.R. #6 litigation, the Tsleil-Waututh can proceed with full negotiations. A Main Table was held on June 17th which outlined the parties' perspectives on Governance, and discussion papers on Eligibility, Enrollment, Ratification, Dispute Resolution and Amendment were circulated by the Parties. A Main Table on Lands and Water is scheduled for November 4. Mayor Don Bell is the LMTAC Representative to these negotiations.

3. ADVISORY BODIES

REGIONAL CAUCUS - The Regional Caucus has been communicating by correspondence (e-mail) over the past months. This body is a source of information on the activities of the line ministries and crown corporations as it relates to aboriginal groups. A meeting of the Lower Mainland Regional Caucus is scheduled for November 18, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the BC Police Commission Building, 4th Floor, 815 Hornby.

REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) - The September and October RAC meetings were cancelled and an updated report was mailed to all RAC members in lieu of the meeting. The first Thursday of every month has been set aside for future RAC meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 1997. An agenda and notice of confirmation will be distributed prior to the meetings. A notice of cancellation will be faxed, when necessary, to RAC members.

FRASER VALLEY TAC - The Fraser Valley TAC has worked within sub-committees over the summer. The FVTAC Interest Identification Sub-Committee held a workshop on July 22, 1997. Full FVTAC meetings reconvened in September. Meetings of the FVTAC are held the fourth Tuesday of the month.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

UBCM DOCUMENT: DEVELOPING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO BC'S APPROACH TO TREATY SETTLEMENT

A draft of UBCM's policy paper titled UBCM's Response to Provincial Government Mandates: "*B.C.'s Approach to Treaty Settlements*" was submitted at the Convention held in Vancouver in October. Amendments were made to some of the recommendations, and the final version will be available in the near future.