

Community to Community Forum
District of Lillooet, northern St'át'imc, Lillooet Tribal Council, P'egp'ig'íha
Council and Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Lillooet, BC, September 12-13, 2024

Summary as of September 25, 2024



Facilitated and prepared by:
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Acknowledgements

The Steering Committee consisting of Jim McArthur, Joe McCulloch, Jeannette Nadon, Christian Ahrenkiel and Suzanne Denbak is acknowledged for planning, coordinating and securing the funding for the forum.

Megan Rempel from the Lillooet Community Connect Innovation Hub is acknowledged for taking detailed notes. Ren Roberts and Jasmine Doss are acknowledged for doing the graphic recording. Daylan Joseph is acknowledged for arranging audio-visual during the event and enabling participation of the virtual participants for the emergency department closure discussion. Catering was provided by Nikki Frank.

The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) is acknowledged for providing the funding for this forum through their [Community to Community \(C2C\) program](#).

Thursday September 12, 2024

Welcome

T'it'q'et Community Chief Sid Scotchman welcomed everyone, and Ted Napoleon performed a welcome song. District of Lillooet (DoL) Mayor Laurie Hopfl, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) Board Chair Jen Ford, and Lillooet Tribal Council (LTC) representative Susan James presented Chief Scotchman with a gift in thanks for hosting the community-to-community (C2C) forum.

Mike Simpson, independent facilitator was introduced, and he noted that he appreciated the opportunity to facilitate this forum.

The St'át'imc bear dancers performed, explaining the significance of the dance, and inviting participants to touch the bear skins to transfer their pain, hurt and enable clear minds and hearts.

Presentation

Stacey Austinson, a St'át'imc relations consultant and advocate for Indigenous resurgence, equality and empowerment from Xaxli'p, gave a presentation entitled *Allyship and Generative Relations: New Possibilities in Relationship Building*.

Stacey's presentation gave an overview of the history of settler approaches to Indigenous relations back to the 1600s, through to the recently adopted United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and the BC Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Act (DRIPA). Stacey challenged the concept of allyship, reading a powerful poem [Wanna be an ally?](#)

"My grandfather was a hereditary chief in the Rights Declaration...this is our land; we never gave it away. We have title to everything; we are never going to surrender it."

"I'm at a point in my life where in my heart I need to forgive. I need to get to a better place in this world...I have two boys, 24 and 35, this world needs to be a better place for them."

protecting them from its brutality, perspectives on privilege, and personal reflections from St'át'imc individuals.

The Declaration of the Lillooet Tribes from 1911 is available [here](#), and below.





Stacey's presentation is available to participants in Appendix 3.

Friday September 13, 2024

Welcome

T'it'q'et Community Chief Sid Scotchman welcomed everyone and noted we all live here and need to work together. Mike Simpson, facilitator, reviewed the objectives and agenda for the day (see Appendix 1 – Agenda). The following ground rules were proposed and agreed to:

- Be present – try to avoid multitasking
- Seek to understand before you are understood
- Listen to what others are saying, don't just hear their words
- Speak the truth, speak from the heart
- More voices, fewer words

Introductions and Sharing Perspectives

A round of introductions around the room took place (see Appendix 2 – List of Participants), with people sharing their perspectives on the following themes:

Reconciliation, relationship building, improving communication including consultation and finding ways to work together were common themes identified in interviews before this forum.

Introduce yourself and share some thoughts on these topics with these questions in mind:

- *Are these important to you?*
- *What does this look like – today, next week, next year, and for the next generation?*
- *What will be critical to our ability to make progress on important issues together?*

Some answers to those questions were noted as follows:

- All those items were noted as important
- We need honesty in conversations to build relationships and work together; let's build a pathway for us to understand how to connect
- We need to be able to reach out to each other when things are good, and when they are hard
- SLRD is working towards a vision and framework for relationships that recognizes plural legal systems – both St'át'imc and BC/Canadian laws
- The ability to accomplish something, make change, work together, find the mutual interest
- Must be able to maintain and continue working relationships when political leaders change; utilize protocols and principles; keep momentum going
- Break down jurisdictional boundaries created by BC and Canada; ultimately, we are one community in the Lillooet-northern St'át'imc area that is longer-term than any election cycle
- Build on the successes since the previous C2C forums in 2016 and 2019; there has been progress
- Need to explore a structure to enable political co-governance, co-management, co-existence

“Just being together here is reconciliation.”

Lillooet Hospital Emergency Department Closures

The following participants joined virtually for this topic:

- Wenecwtsin (Wayne Christian) – Deputy Chair, First Nations Health Council (FNHC)
- Susan Brown – President and CEO, Interior Health (IH)
- Douglas Smith – Vice President, Medicine, Interior Health
- Susan Dolinski – VP of Communications and Engagement, Interior Health
- Karen Cooper – Executive Director of Clinical Operations, Interior Health
- Ernest Armann – St'át'imc representative on First Nations Health Council

Discussion ensued on the following questions to guide the conversation, with responses noted below.

What are our common concerns around emergency department closures?

- Emergency department closures in Lillooet mean long drives to Kamloops for those who live north and west of Lillooet – this could be a 4 hour drive one-way in good road conditions
- Winter conditions, landslides/debris flows and avalanches may impact ability to leave the Lillooet area, or for ambulances to access patients in need
- IH's Notice of Closure is inadequate
- Insufficient number of ambulances available to serve Lillooet area if local emergency department is closed
- Lack of transportation available when discharged from Kamloops to be able to get home
- Opioid crisis and homeless crisis – people are vulnerable
- Elders need and deserve local care as a matter of respect; can't travel far for emergency care
- Inability for local women to give birth in Lillooet
- Concern is that there is a long-term plan to close the hospital in Lillooet

What are the impacts beyond access to care for residents?

- Emergency department closures are driving away industry and investment, and affecting major projects in the area such as BC Hydro works
- District of Lillooet is bearing the brunt of communicating about emergency department closures, for which they are not funded

What can we do to address this? Together or collectively?

- Need more access to ambulances
- Have supports available – level 3 first aid attendants, drivers
- Put more St’át’imc people through first aid training
- Improve the doctor and nurse recruitment strategy – enable local people to “sell the community” such as representatives from DoL, St’át’imc, and a local health care provider.
- Reinststate a local health planning table to generate local ideas
- Explore ability for nurses to do more and varied health care
- Need a government-to-government table to explore solutions and talk money – St’át’imc are willing to set up their own systems for Lillooet area

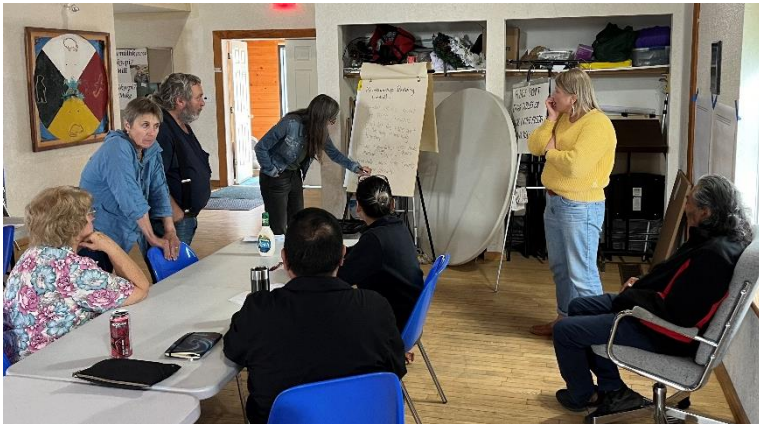
Comments and commitments from IH and FNHC representatives who joined virtually were as follows:

- Wenecwtsin noted that we need collaboration to come up with different solutions
- Susan Brown noted that there are no plans to close the hospital. She noted that they would be happy to work with locals to recruit/showcase Lillooet to prospective doctors. She noted that rural financial incentives have been introduced – signing and retention bonuses are higher in rural environment; and they are looking at virtual access to doctors (but there must be a doctor in community for back up). She committed that Interior Health will immediately address transportation to return folks home if they have had to go to Kamloops.
- Karen Cooper welcomed the solution of a local health action table to create local solutions
- Douglas Smith noted the need to do a better job of welcoming doctors and their families to new communities
- Susan Brown committed to providing a Q&A sheet that can be provided to community members.

Specific Topics – Breakout Groups

Based on “dotmocracy” or voting by sticky dots, the following 4 topics were explored in further detail by small groups, with the opportunity for participants to rotate. Below is a summary of what was discussed and the next steps; see Appendices 4-7 for more detailed notes.

Relationship Building, Communication, Reconciliation, Consultation, Intergovernmental Working Group and Protocol Development



This group discussed the need to improve communication and coordination and agreed to seek a mandate from leadership to re-start the Intergovernmental Relations Working Group (IRWG), or design a similar process, to create working groups (action tables) to work together on a variety of topics. See Appendix 4 for detailed notes.

Health Care

This group suggested the following actions:

- Develop a recruitment strategy using St'át'imc, DoL, Lillooet residents and IH staff
- Encourage School District 74 students in grades 7-12 to consider careers in healthcare
- Create an Emergency Department (ED) task force to collaborate on ED closure issues
- Each community should create an emergency response plan for when the ED closes, and secure Closure Funds (essentially money saved each time there is a closure) from IH to create and back-fill emergency services
- Approach former MLA Jackie Tegart about advocating for this group
- Support St'át'imc in their rights under DRIPA to control their own services and governance, and recognize that the dismantling of local healthcare is being undertaken by IH with a board of directors with no connections to St'át'imc



See Appendix 5 for detailed notes.

Land, Environment, Natural Resources, Guardians, Invasive Species

This group discussed the interconnectedness of land, water and resources, the jurisdiction of St'át'imc, and explored opportunities to work together on an issue of common concern: preparedness for wildfire. Several actions were suggested around coordinating plans, securing funding with the goal of creating safer communities.

See Appendix 6 for detailed notes.



Infrastructure and New Development

This group identified the need for recognizing opportunities to work together where there is shared interest and use in infrastructure that can serve all communities in Lillooet and the northern St'át'imc area, regardless of administrative jurisdiction. Some specific suggestions created were:

- Start by doing some small micro-projects to build relationships
- Access to land suitable for development is a challenge – prime sites are being held by investors who are sitting on land waiting for equity gains from a 'flip' rather than putting it to productive use
- Utilize and share expertise across communities e.g. Xwisten has expertise in recycling that could be shared; Sekw'el'was and District of Lillooet water infrastructure.

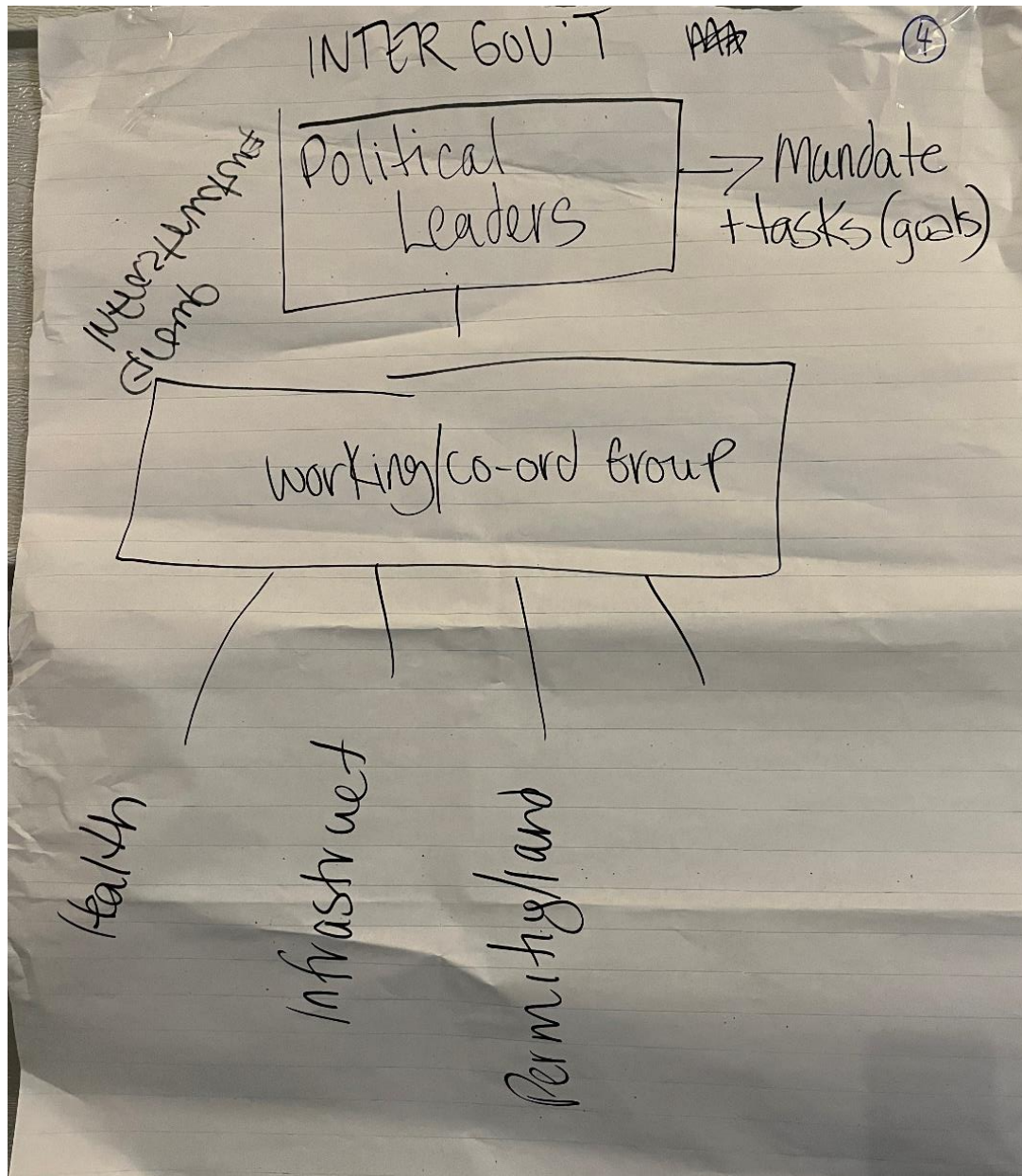
See Appendix 7 for detailed notes.



Common Elements of Breakout Groups

Three of the four breakout groups identified the need for a **Leadership Group** to create the mandate to work together, and a **Working Group** to carry out specific tasks and actions.

Below is the rough concept of potential structure captured by one of the breakout groups.



Next Steps

The following were the next steps identified:

What	Who	When
Follow up on immediate health care actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue a common press release that IH has been assigned a failing grade for their ability to provide emergency health services Follow up with FNHC and IH on their commitments and actions Actions noted above under Health Care 	Jim McArthur, Christian Ahrenkiel, Joe McCulloch	Week Sept 16
Establish a Leadership Group from DoL, SLRD, LTC and P'egp'ig'lha Council (PC) to define a shared mandate, objectives and targets/measures of success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule a delegation of DoL, SLRD and PC representatives to attend an LTC meeting 	Leaders from DoL, LTC, SLRD, PC with staff support	Within 3 months
Leadership tasks a Working Group comprised of senior staff from District of Lillooet, SLRD, Lillooet Tribal Council, P'egp'ig'lha Council to explore how to achieve shared goals and objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a general working group (i.e. coordinating table), with tasks groups (i.e. action tables) on specific topics such as Health, infrastructure, Permitting 	Leaders from DoL, LTC, SLRD, PC with staff support	Within 3 months
Explore similarities with Lillooet & Area Community Wildfire Roundtable , follow up with Mike Simpson	Proponents of Wildfire group	Ongoing
Apply for C2C grant for 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other governments may also be able to apply 	Jeannette Nadon, SLRD	Dec 6, 2024, deadline
Explore other topics identified, but not discussed today (see Appendix 8 – Framing of Topics): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing, homelessness Landfill operations Emergency Management, including wildfire preparedness and recovery BC Hydro, relationship, trust fund Who does what Education 	Everyone	At a future C2C forum or working group

A closing roundtable of feedback on today's forum was held with the following perspectives shared:

- Was worried that we wouldn't accomplish very much. It feels much lighter to be working on these issues together
- Having a common voice helps with advocacy
- This is a strong team
- This is successful in a lot of different ways; we are agreeing to work together. We need to keep this kind of a thing going
- If we stand behind each other, that is more positive that we can come together and sit together and make plans and put names to those plans for those task forces.
- Everything is here in the room, the knowledge, the talents the abilities, the need and the want to work on behalf of the communities.

Appendix 1 – Agenda

Community to Community Forum

Thursday September 12, 2024 – 5:00PM to 9:00PM

Friday September 13, 2024 – 9:00AM to 3:00PM

T'it'q'et Spiritual Centre – 10 Retasket Drive, Lillooet BC

Invited Participants*:

Elected officials and senior staff from:

- District of Lillooet
- Lillooet Tribal Council
- P'egp'ig'lha Council
- Sekw'el'was
- Squamish Lillooet Regional District
- T'it'q'et
- Tsal'ah
- Ts'kw'aylaxw
- Xaxli'p
- Xwísten

**Note there are other invited guests attending virtually for one topic on Friday*

Forum Objectives:

To convene elected officials and senior staff from local and St'at'imc governments to:

- Build relationships
- Identify shared concerns and opportunities to work together
- Identify some next steps so that collectively we feel like we're moving forward together

Agenda September 12, 2024:

Time	Item	Speaker and/or Format
5:00PM	Welcome	Chief Sid Scotchman, Ted Napoleon
5:30PM	Bear Dancers	
6:00PM	Dinner	
7:00PM	Presentation Doctrine of Discovery, an introduction to St'át'imc, UNDRIP, DRIPA and the Calls to Action	Stacey Austinson
9:00PM	Adjourn	

Agenda September 13, 2024:

Time	Item	Speaker and/or Format
8:30AM	Doors Open, Coffee On, Registration	
9:00AM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Welcome to T'it'q'et, opening ceremony/prayer/song● Review agenda, objectives, ground rules	Chief Sidney Scotchman Mike Simpson, facilitator
9:15AM	Introductions, Sharing Perspectives Reconciliation, relationship building, improving communication including consultation and finding ways to work together were common themes identified in interviews before this forum.	Plenary – circle format Mike Simpson briefly summarizes what was heard in interviews.

Time	Item	Speaker and/or Format
	<p>Introduce yourself and share some thoughts on these topics with these questions in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are these important to you? • What does this look like – today, next week, next year, and for the next generation? • What will be critical to our ability to make progress on important issues together? 	Everyone
10:45AM	Break	
11:00AM	<p>Emergency Department Closures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are our common concerns around emergency department closures? • What are the impacts beyond access to care for residents? • What can we do to address this? Together or collectively? 	<p>Plenary – circle format</p> <p>Invited to hear concerns and explore alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MLA Jackie Tegart • Interior Health Chair Dr. Robert Halpenny and staff • FNHA Vice Chair Wayne Christian
12:00	Lunch	
1:00	<p>Specific Topics – breakout groups for top 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship building, Communication, Reconciliation, Consultation, Intergovernmental Working Group and protocol development • Health care • Housing, homelessness • Infrastructure, new development • Land, environment, natural resources, Guardians, invasive species • Landfill operations • Emergency Management, including wildfire preparedness and recovery • BC Hydro, relationship, trust fund • Who does what 	<p>Reflect on what you heard this morning and think of northern St’at’imc/SLRD Areas A and B/DoL as a whole region.</p> <p>4 topics x 3 rotations of 20min each</p> <p>Key questions for each topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is possible? • What’s already happening? • Who needs to be involved? • How do we move forward? • When do we take next steps?
2:15	<p>Wrap up, Next Steps, Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief report out from small groups • What did we learn from today? • What are the next steps? • Plan for future C2Cs or how to tackle other topics? 	Plenary – circle format
3:00	Adjourn	

Appendix 2 – List of Participants

Organization	Name	Position	Email	Present Thursday	Present Friday
District of Lillooet	Joe McCulloch	CAO	cao@lillooet.ca	Y	Y
District of Lillooet	Joni L'Heureux	CFO	cfo@lillooet.ca	Y	N
District of Lillooet	Suzanne Denbak	EcDev	sdenbak@cadencestrategies.com	Y	Y
District of Lillooet	Laurie Hopfl	Mayor	lhopfl@lillooet.ca	Y	Y
District of Lillooet	Rolf deBruin	Councillor	rdebruin@lillooet.ca	Y	Y
District of Lillooet	Patti Flann	Councillor	pflann@lillooet.ca	Y	Y
District of Lillooet	Randy McNary	Councillor	rmcnary@lillooet.ca	Y	Y
District of Lillooet	Barb Wiebe	Councillor	bwiebe@lillooet.ca	Y	Y
Interior Health	Cheryl Edwards	Indigenous patient navigator	cheryl.edwards@interiorhealth.ca	Y	Y
Lillooet Community Connect HUB	Megan Rempel	HUB Manager	manager@thehublillooet.ca	Y	Y
Lillooet Tribal Council	Jim MacArthur	Intergovernmental Relations	jmacarthur@lillooettribalcouncil.ca	Y	Y
Lillooet Tribal Council	Andrea Leach	Administrator		N	Y
Lillooet Tribal Council	Daylan Joseph	Communications Coordinator	daylan.grant@statimcltc.ca	Y	Y
P'egp'ig'lha Council	Joe Copeland	Family rep		Y	Y
P'egp'ig'lha Council	Christian Ahrenkiel	Director of Operations	director@pegpiglha.org	Y	Y
Sekw'el'was	Bonnie Adolph	Chief		Y	Y
Sekw'el'was	Jolene Alec	Councillor		Y	N
SLRD	Sal DeMare	Area A Director	saldemare27@gmail.com	Y	Y
SLRD	Vivian Birch-Jones	Area B Director	VBJones@slrd.bc.ca	Y	Y
SLRD	Jen Ford	SLRD Board Chair	jford@slrd.bc.ca	Y	Y
SLRD	Jeannette Nadon	Indigenous Relations Advisor	jnadon@slrd.bc.ca	Y	Y
SLRD	Heather Paul	CAO	hpaul@slrd.bc.ca	Y	Y
T'it'q'et	Sidney Scotchman	Community Chief	communitychief@titqet.org	Y	Y

Organization	Name	Position	Email	Present Thursday	Present Friday
Tsal'ah	Randy James	Chief		Y	N
Ts'kw'aylaxw	Justin Kane	Chief		N	Y
Ts'kw'aylaxw	Jeannette John	Staff		N	Y
Xaxli'p	Darrell Bob Sr.	Chief		Y	Y
Xwísten	Ina Williams	Chief	chief@xwisten.ca	Y	Y
Xwísten	Susan James	Councillor		Y	N
Other	Mike Simpson	Facilitator	mf_simpson@outlook.com	Y	Y
Other	Ren Roberts	Graphic facilitator	lauren.e.roberts72@gmail.com	Y	Y
Other	Jasmine Doss	Graphic facilitator	jasminedoss27@gmail.com	Y	Y

Appendix 3 – Stacey Austinson Presentation

Allyship and Generative Relations: New Possibilities in Relation Building

Thursday September 12, 2024

Community to Community Forum

Stacey Austinson, First Nations Relations Consultant

** Copy provided to attendees upon request*

1

Context

2

History 1610-1800

1610-1632 – First Contact with eastern indigenous people

1774 – First Contact with western indigenous people

1763 **The Royal Proclamation** embodies a policy statement by **the Crown recognizing Indian land title and rights and prohibiting any alienation of Indian lands without surrender to the Crown.**

1793 Alexander Mackenzie, North West Company (NWC) **meets Aboriginal people** along the Fraser River, including northern Secwépemc people.

1858 The Nlaka'pamux (Thompson), St'at'imc (Lillooet), Syilx (Okanagan) and Secwépemc (Shuswap) **engage in a war in the Fraser Canyon** with American gold miners' militias — elected leaders and established militias experienced in Indian wars in the U.S.A — to a standstill, compelling the Americans to sign a peace treaty with the Aboriginal Nations. B.C. Governor James Douglas abdicates responsibility, leaving it up to the Aboriginal warriors to defend the mainland from American invasion.

1858 **The colony of B.C. is formed on November 19th 1858.**

3

History 1800

1865 Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, Joseph Trutch, **reduces the previously allotted or proposed reserves under pretext that settlers are arguing the Indians are not “using” the lands.**

1867 **The B.N.A. Act creates Dominion of Canada Section 91(24)**, giving the Federal Government responsibility for Indians and lands reserved for Indians.

1871 **B.C. enters Confederation.** The Terms of Union are drawn up and mention of Indians is limited to Clause 13 which states that the Federal Government will continue to be responsible for Indians and will enact a policy “as liberal as hitherto” towards Indians.

1876 **The first federal Indian Act is passed.** It consolidates all previous Indian legislation, defines Indian status and reserves, and gives the Superintendent General administrative powers over Indian affairs. The Indian Act of 1876 officially banned First Nations people from land ownership and eventually allowed companies to extract resources on reserve land for nominal or no consideration at all.

4

History 1800

- 1877 **The Joint Reserve Commission visits Interior Nations who are seriously considering uniting forces** with Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce **to go to war over the land issue.**
- 1878 The Joint Reserve Commission is dissolved because B.C. no longer wishes to participate. A federal commissioner carries on alone, subject to the approval of the B.C. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works and B.C. Supreme Court to adjudicate disputes.
- 1880s **The Doctrine of Discovery enters into Canadian Law.**
- 1885 The Potlatch is made illegal.

5

History 1900

- 1909 **Interior Tribes of B.C. is formed.**
- 1909- 1911 **Numerous Nations put forth petitions and declarations, including the Lillooet, Cowichan, Nisga'a and Tahltan.**
- 1910 **Interior Chiefs sign a declaration on July 16th** at Spence's Bridge setting out their position on Aboriginal title and rights. On August 25th, a Memorial is presented to Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier by the Interior Chiefs at the I.O.O.F. (Oddfellows) Hall in Kamloops.
- 1911 Laurier loses the Federal election; Conservative opponent Robert Borden wins and the **Memorial is shelved.**
- 1911 The Memorial to Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior, is presented. An expanded group of Interior Chiefs implore the Minister, then in charge of Indian Affairs, in powerful words to address the question of title, rights, and jurisdiction, which they view as fundamental to improving the living conditions of Aboriginal Peoples.

6

History 1913 - 1969

- 1913-1916 Partly in response to the Indian lobbying efforts, the McKenna-McBride Commission is established. However, **instead of dealing with the fundamental issue of Indian title and rights, it only deals with adjusting the size of the reserves.** Their report, completed in 1916, results in 47,000 acres of good, arable reserve land to be taken away and replaced with 80,000 acres of inferior land.
- 1916 The Allied Tribes of BC is founded. In 1919, The filed a petition to the federal and provincial governments with a comprehensive presentation of all Indian land claims in the province.
- 1920-1926 The Allied Tribes oppose the McKenna-McBride report. The Province refuses to participate in any discussions. The Allied Tribes dissolve in 1926.
- 1927 An amendment to the Indian Act (s.141) is passed, prohibiting Indians from raising money for advancing land claims, filing court cases on land claims or retaining a lawyer.
- 1969 The Trudeau administration makes the **White Paper** public. The policy aims at **assimilating Indians into mainstream society by eliminating "special status" and transferring responsibility to the provinces.** Indians across Canada vehemently reject it, issuing a Red Paper.

7

History 1990 – 2020

- 1990 ***R. vs. Sparrow*** clarifies constitutionally protected Aboriginal fishing rights.
- 1991 Report of the BC Claims Task Force Recommends a new treaty process for BC.
- 1995 BC develops the B.C. Treaty Commission Act.
- 1997 ***Delgamuuk'w vs. British Columbia*** upholds Aboriginal title, asserting that Aboriginal people must be consulted and compensated for any infringement or extinguishment of title.
- 2000 **The Nisga'a Final Agreement Act becomes Canadian law.** The Nisga'a surrender 92% of their territory and become subject to provincial and federal laws in exchange for expanded reserved lands over which they hold common title, and \$190 million cash.

8

History 2007 - 2023

- 2007 **The U.N. adopts the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.** Canada is one of four nations to **vote against its adoption** and remains one of the only countries which refuses to ratify.
- 2016 **Canada adopts the UN Declaration.**
- 2019 On November 28 the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia unanimously adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, 2019, becoming the first jurisdiction in Canada to enshrine UNDRIP into law.
- 2022 **The Province of BC releases the Declaration Act Action Plan**, developed in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples, outlining 89 specific actions every ministry in government will take to create a better province for Indigenous Peoples in B.C.
- 2023 In March 2023, the Vatican officially repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery. Canada and United States do not.

9

BC and First Nations History

A more in depth timeline

BC and First Nations History

https://assets.nationbuilder.com/ubcic/pages/147/attachments/original/1445630747/Historical_Timeline.pdf?1445630747

10

Doctrine of Discovery 1493

- Issued May 4, 1493 - The Doctrine of Discovery is a legal principle that European countries extinguished Indigenous sovereignty and acquired the underlying title to Indigenous Peoples' lands upon 'discovering' them.
- This was invalidly based on the presumed racial superiority of European Christian peoples and was used to dehumanize, exploit and subjugate Indigenous Peoples and dispossess them of their most basic rights. This was the very foundation of genocide.
- This document denies the validity of longstanding systems of Indigenous governance and sovereignty.



Bruce McIvor describes the Doctrine of Discovery
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z3xUSTWJ1qc>

11

Royal Proclamation 1763

- The "Indian Magna Carta"
- Royal Proclamation explicitly states that Aboriginal title has existed and continues to exist, and that all land would be considered Aboriginal land until ceded by treaty. The Proclamation forbade settlers from claiming land from the Aboriginal occupants, unless it has been first bought by the Crown and then sold to the settlers.
- The Royal Proclamation is enshrined in Section 25 of the Constitution Act; this section of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees that nothing can terminate or diminish the Aboriginal rights outlined in the Proclamation.

12

Declaration of the the Lillooet Tribes (excerpt)

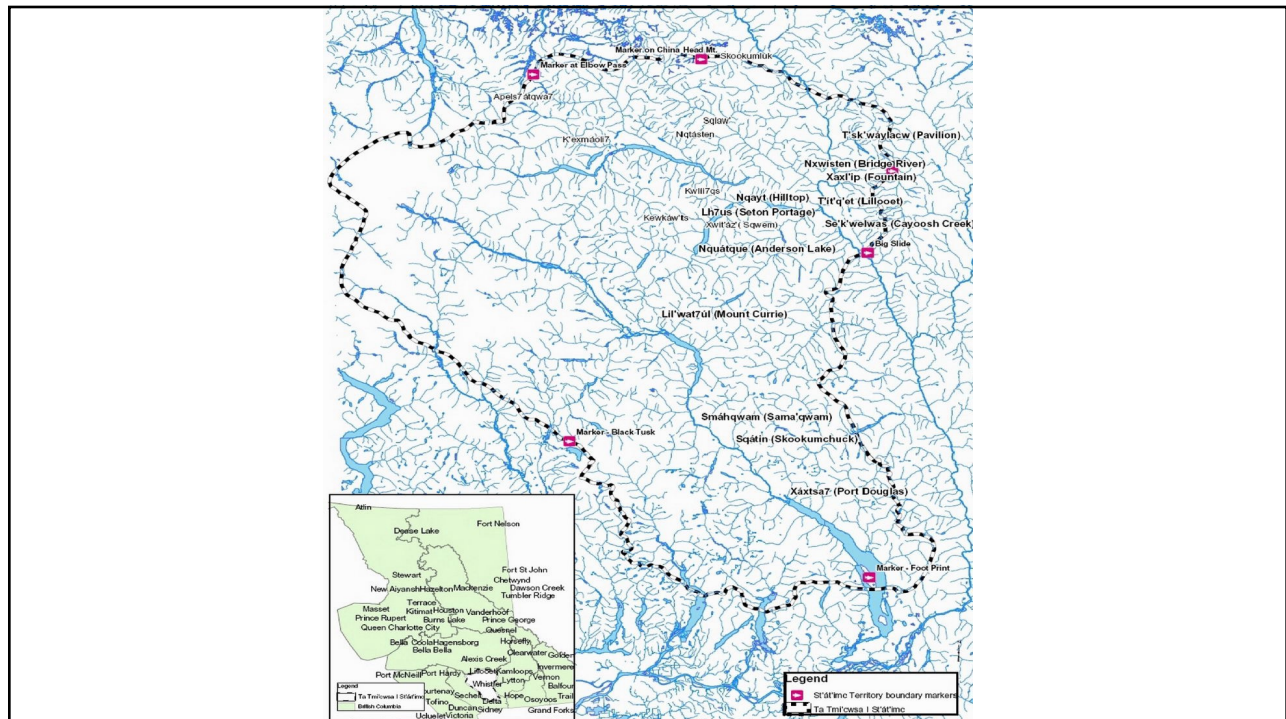
" To Whom It May Concern:

We the underwritten chiefs of the Lillooet tribe (being all the chiefs of said tribe) declare as follows:

We speak the truth, and we speak for our whole tribe, numbering about 1400 people at the present time. We claim that we are the rightful owners of our tribal territory, and every- thing pertaining thereto. We have always lived in our Country; at no time have we ever deserted it, or left it to others. We have retained it from the invasion of other tribes at the cost of our blood. Our ancestors were in possession of our country centuries before the whites came. It is the same as yesterday when the latter came, and like the day before when the first fur trader came. We are aware the B.C. government claims our Country, like all other Indian territories in B.C.; but we deny their right to it. We never gave it nor sold it to them. They certainly never got the title to the Country from us, neither by agreement nor con- quest, and none other than us could have any right to give them title."

May 10th, 1911

13



14

UNDRIP Changes Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples

"What we encountered in the constitutional battles in Canada is when we wanted to apply human rights to indigenous people..The government said you do not have human rights because you are the wrong kind of people"

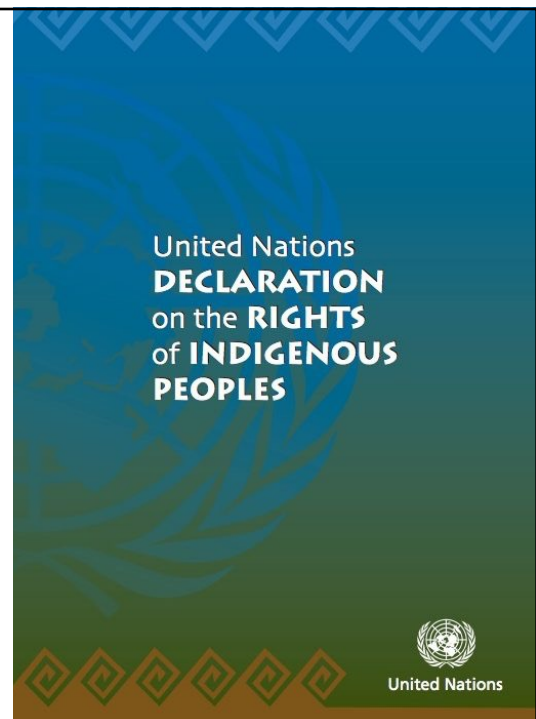
James Youngblood Henderson – Research Fellow Native Law Center of Canada University of Saskatchewan College of Law

"After 25 years, of being worked on, the UN Declaration has now said, we have the same human rights as any other people. "

15

United Nations Declaration on the rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP)

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) is an international instrument adopted by the United Nations on September 13, 2007, **to enshrine (according to Article 43) the rights that "constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world."** The UNDRIP protects collective rights that may not be addressed in other human rights charters that emphasize individual rights, and it also safeguards the individual rights of Indigenous people. The Declaration is the product of almost 25 years of deliberation by U.N. member states and Indigenous groups.



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Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and Calls to Action

- Canada strikes the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2008 to investigate the full extent of the harm caused by residential schools, propose solutions, and prevent future abuse of Indigenous communities.
- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, in Call to Action #43, called upon the “federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation”.
- Bill C-262 was passed in the House of Commons on May 30, 2018, with the overwhelming majority of votes cast in support of the bill.

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Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA)

- On October 24, 2019, British Columbia unveiled Bill 41, legislation intended to harmonize its laws with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), making it the first province to do so since Canada endorsed the UN declaration in 2016. The Bill went through committee and passed third reading on November 26 and will receive Royal Assent on November 28 at 11:30 am.
- On November 28, 2019, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia unanimously adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, 2019, becoming the first jurisdiction in Canada to enshrine UNDRIP into law.

Source: <https://www.bcdripa.org>

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BC Declaration Act Action Plan

- Includes collectively identified goals and outcomes that form the long-term vision for implementing the UN Declaration in B.C. The plan contains 89 priority actions - that will advance this work in key areas over the next five years.
- The Action Plan is organized into 4 themes to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration.

Self-Determination and Inherent Right of Self-Government

Title and Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Ending Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination

Social, Cultural and Economic Well-Being

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/indigenous-people/new-relationship/united-nations-declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples/implementation>

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Sources

[Truth and Reconciliation](#)

[https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Executive Summary English Web.pdf](https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Executive_Summary_English_Web.pdf)

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LGMA
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

<https://www.lgma.ca/truth-and-reconciliation-resources>

21



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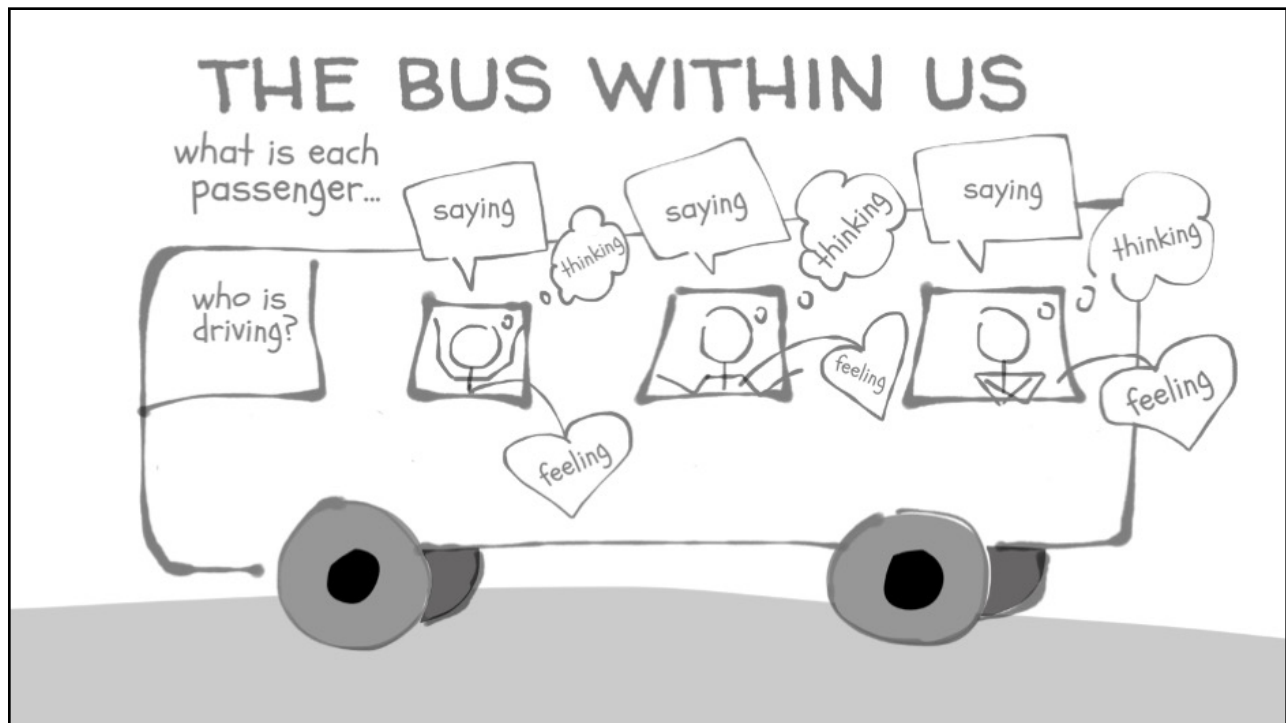
Setting the space to hear

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The Bus within

**Hospicing Modernity-Facing
Humanity's Wrongs and the
Implications for Social Activism**
Vanessa Machado de Oliveira

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Invitation

The invitation of the bus methodology is to become familiar with, and accept (without endorsing), all of the passengers within ourselves: “the good, the bad, the ugly, and the broken.” The more we know about our passengers, the better able we are to consider how they impact ourselves and others, and perhaps recalibrate them and how they express themselves (rather than try to repress them by denying or minimizing their existence). Ultimately, this can support us to decentre our egos, deactivate our presumed entitlements and exceptionalism, disarm our defenses, and declutter or de-amplify our harmful desires and projections.

<https://decolonialfuturesnet.files.wordpress.com/2021/03/decolonizing-he-workbook-draft-march2021-2.pdf>

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Trigger warning

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Wanna be an ally?

29

INVITATION

<https://decolonialfutures.net/portfolio/wanna-be-an-ally/>

30

fight (defensiveness)	flight (avoidance)	freeze (feeling lost and helpless)	fawn (trying to please)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • denying • arguing • explaining • dominating discussion • delegitimizing/ discrediting • claim of being attacked • claim of objectivity (only you can see the truth) • insistence that it does not apply to you since you have (or have had) multi-ethnic friends or family members that can attest that you are a nice person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • withdrawing • getting distracted • focusing on your intentions • insistence that you are misunderstood • arguing over words meanings or other details • offering counter-examples • use other forms of oppression (e.g. class, sexism, heteronormativity) to minimize the importance of race and colonialism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • crying • numbing • deflecting • exiting • getting distracted • changing the subject • distancing • detaching • divesting • despairing • disconnecting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeking absolution • self-flagellation • martyrdom • over-complimenting Indigenous, Black and racialized people • seeking proximity • seeking praise • virtue-signaling • demanding attention • demanding validation (I am one of the good ones) • pretending to go along to get along (or to protect your image/interests)

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Our brain is trained to minimize threat and maximize reward. If something is perceived as a threat to one's self-image, status, autonomy or security, the amygdala is triggered, prompting the responses of fight, flight, freeze and/or fawn (i.e. to please).

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In his book *Systems Thinking for Social Change*, David Peter Stroh notes that,

“for any complex problem to be solved, the individual players all need to recognize how they unwittingly contribute to it. Once they understand their own responsibility for a problem, they can begin by changing the part of the system over which they have the greatest control: themselves ... seeing the big picture and their role in it, people are more motivated and able to work together to redesign the whole.”

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- Engage ethically
- The quality of the process and the outcomes will depend on the quality of the weaving of relationships and this weaving depends on people engaging in good faith, being open to the unexpected and allowing themselves to be transformed
- Step back and hold space for first nations
- Take responsibility for your own learning
- Be willing to trust the process and to weave relationships

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<https://blogs.ubc.ca/ahenakewcrc/towards-accountable-relationships/>

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Developing Stamina for Decolonizing Higher Education: A Workbook for Non-Indigenous People Sharon Stein, Cash Ahenakew, Elwood Jimmy, Vanessa Andreotti, Will Valley, Sarah Amsler, Bill Calhoun & the Gesturing Towards Decolonial Futures Collective

<https://decolonialfuturesnet.files.wordpress.com/2021/03/decolonizing-he-workbook-draft-march2021-2.pdf>

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- The work shared is open access under the terms of Creative Commons
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- Elwood Jimmy
- Sharon Stein
- Cash Ahenakew

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Appendix 4 – Relationship Building Breakout Group Notes

Look at restarting the Intergovernmental Relations Working Group (IRWG), review/revise the Terms of Reference, revisit the Protocol Agreement for Communication and Cooperation (PACC) and see if it could be revised (or if we need to start fresh)

There was consensus that having a Protocol Agreement would be beneficial, but we shouldn't let the lack of Protocol Agreement get in the way of working together

Need to start with a mandate from Chiefs and Elected Officials; list goals and tasks; commit staff resources; working groups form around the issues identified. Political table to set mandate and enable capacity, agree on goals, list actions, coordinating table to keep things moving forward and create action tables to tackle agreed upon priority issues.

- Not about title and rights (that's a higher level)
- How do we address issues on the ground?
- How do we co-exist and look after each other?
- What are the common concerns?
 - Permitting
 - Emergency management
 - Co-governance and collective decision making
 - Health care
 - Education and education system (ask Jim about St'át'imc initiative)
 - Emergency response
 - Land use planning
 - Policy development
 - Shared advocacy
 - Paradigm shift at local government level (Nations first)
- Who – LTC, PC, DoL, SLRD Electoral Areas A and B (keep it simple)
- When – ideally within 3 months/before Christmas.
- How – in person is best, option for virtual
 - First meeting – elected officials (Chiefs, Mayor, SLRD A and B Directors) and CAOs. Could potentially schedule to coincide with LTC meeting (first Friday of each month)
 - Potential to do this meeting instead of regular LTC meeting
 - Purpose – review previous IRWG work, develop the mandate, create a terms of reference (TOR)
- Prep before first meeting
 - Staff compile previous info, review previous TOR (note to add alternates), Protocol Agreement for Communication and Cooperation)
 - Develop agenda (building on notes from this C2C forum)
 - Include priority list
 - Consider whether this is the next C2C forum, or a smaller group first?

Appendix 5 – Health Care Breakout Group Notes

Introduction

While the focus of the health breakout group was potentially broad in scope, the primary focus of the discussion pertained to how to address the growing number of Emergency Department (ED) closures occurring at the Lillooet Hospital. In August 2024 there were at least four days in which the ED closed due to a lack of doctors available to staff it. Interior Health (IH) has recently reported out to the various local/Lillooet parties that they are working at recruiting/attracting physicians to fill the ED shifts, but the problem of the physician shortage is widespread and they are doing what they can.

Discussion

The discussion at the breakout group took a more holistic approach to the issue, proposing that:

- IH needs to revise its recruitment/retention efforts to work closer with local residents who can promote Lillooet as a destination for rural doctors, versus attempting to attract urban doctors to this rural community:
 - The Lillooet recruitment strategy should include: St'át'imc, Lillooet residents (i.e. Ian Routley), Ministry of Health, and IH (i.e. Laura Moore, Jessie, Crystal, Rachel, etc.).
- As well, IH, St'át'imc, and District of Lillooet (DoL) should collaborate with the School District 74 (SD74) to develop a training and education program that encourages Lillooet's high school students to choose a career in healthcare:
 - Start in grades 7-12 to promote education, nursing, physicians, lab techs, counsellors.
 - This capacity-building must also provide skilled staff to communities as well as IH.
 - This local training and education program should include community education coordinators, ISETS, SEI, and local resource persons such as: Laura Moore, Jessie, Crystal, Rachel, etc.).
- In addition to a local recruitment/retention strategy/team, it was proposed that the local parties (St'át'imc, SLRD, DoL, and IH) should create an ED Task Force that can continue to collaborate on the issue of ED closures in Lillooet:
 - This task Force should have a protocol agreement between the parties about roles and responsibilities when the Lillooet ED closes.
 - The Task Force should be populated with Christian, Joe, Dr. Routley, Jim, Colleen, Daryl A, Ernest.
- Each community (Lillooet and the six St'át'imc communities) should have/create an Emergency Response Plan – how will each community respond to health emergencies in situations when the ED closes.
- On days when IH closes the ED, the local communities should be provided with the funds that were not spent providing ED services (the Closure Funds). The Closure Funds should be available to the local community so it can create back-fill emergency services.

- Closure Funds could be spent recruiting a physician, retaining Blackcomb Helicopters to transport patients, providing backfill services such as a Nurse practitioner, Mobile Treatment Centre.
- The ED Task Force needs to research:
 - How do we access the Air Ambulance service?
 - Why is the historical locum strategy no longer working?
- The ED Task Force should stay engaged with the FNHC/FNHA so FNHC can support and echo the local efforts to address ED closures.
- Approach Jackie Tegart about joining the effort as an Advocate.
- Release a press release that IH has been assigned a failing grade on their ability to provide emergency health services.
- Most of the physicians providing services in Lillooet are “PRAs” (Practice ready Assessments) and they are not qualified to supervise interns. We need to secure more “full class registered” physicians.
- DRIPA confirms the right of the St’át’imc to control their own services and governance. Yet the IH Board is non-elected/is appointed by the Health Minister and these appointed individuals are overseeing the dismantling of the healthcare in our communities.
 - The St’át’imc should advocate for the implementation of DRIPA and reject the authority of non-elected Board members.
- **Miscellaneous Items**
 - Perhaps we should integrate the St’át’imc primary care initiative into the Lillooet hospital
 - Bring the Mayor’s hospital expansion proposal to the ED Task Force

Appendix 6 – Land, Environment, Natural Resources, Guardians, Invasive Species Breakout Group Notes

Mitigate the recreational impact of use on the trail system and the land

- Recognize many recreational users have illegally created some trails, not consistent with St'át'imc land use plans or

Recognize jurisdiction and interconnectedness

- The land is all connected; interconnectedness of land use planning, watersheds, impacts of wildfires, and St'át'imc practices to manage forests and resources
- Watersheds, wetland are resources
- St'át'imc have title and jurisdiction, it is only assumed Crown jurisdiction
- Everything flows from the St'át'imc Nation Declaration
- Indigenous communities don't want to hear land acknowledgement – should focus on how to work together
- All people are impacted and have common concerns with impacts to lands and resources – the issue is how to make a plan and work across jurisdictions
- DoL and SLRD are stakeholders in this process
- Lillooet Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) from the early 2000s was never adopted, never moved past a draft

What can you bring to the table? What are the opportunities to work together?

- Xwisten and Bridge River Valley Association have worked on a draft land use collaboration for trails
- SLRD and DOL residents and community is an expert team
- SLRD opportunity is a referral process from community members and volunteers to engage in land use planning
- Would be good to have DOL at the table for land use planning, to enable people to have a say of what happens in our community
- Could work at large scale (all northern St'át'imc, or former LRMP scale) and at a watershed scale

Wildfire and Working Together

- Concerns with forest fuel management and reducing risks in communities
- St'át'imc had this taught to them
- Opportunities exist to mechanically thin forests, remove material to reduce fire risk
- Obstacles – money, permitting
- Suggested action: form an Emergency Working Group:
 - Land managers from St'át'imc
 - SLRD emergency management staff
 - DOL fire department
 - Create a plan together, look for money together, identify actions, priorities, including cultural burns
 - Meet quarterly
 - Hold the Province accountable

Appendix 7 – Infrastructure and New Development Breakout Group Notes

There is an opportunity to work together to identify shared interests and shared use infrastructure:

- We all want better for our communities and families
- Infrastructure is expensive and we can't afford unnecessary duplications or miss out on the benefits of economies of scale that may come from working together
- There are many grant sources with different eligibility criteria and we will have more success securing funds if we work together and each apply for the grants for which we are eligible
- Shared interest = shared use = shared benefit

Idea: Create a shared master plan for community infrastructure – regardless of artificial jurisdiction lines, boundaries, find the commonalities:

- Shared infrastructure master plan
- Shared recreation master plan

Shared infrastructure could also include:

- Housing
- REC Centre – offer programs, hours of operation, ball diamonds
- \$46M in funding was secured by the new DoL CAO in his last position
- Cultural Centre
- Health Clinic (forget IH and do it ourselves)
- Community Complex – think big – cultural centre, education, government offices

Current needs, opportunities and challenges:

- E.g., Sekw'el'was needs water
- Xwisten has great plan and are developing systems for recycling
- Challenge is land, access to land – limited land suited to development. City investors holding onto parcels and waiting for value to increase, not using it for businesses and community.
 - Cost of real estate, rental increases
 - Affordability issues, homelessness
- DoL and SLRD zoning and bylaws and their applicability if land is purchased by St'át'imc - need to consider whose rules will apply
- Idea: Look at INAC instruments to work with BC and transfer land back to nations and out of District of Lillooet or Regional District (could be faster if comes from BC)

Microprojects – start by doing small projects to “stress test” and build relationships:

- Housing – identify land, go after grants together
- Vacant uses projects – make a list and go forward

Develop two groups starting next week:

- Government group – meet regularly
- Working Group – clear goals and actions, meet quarterly
 - Build in accountability and follow up on today's ideas (if we have the blessing of leadership)

Develop an MOU and Friendship Agreement

Appendix 8 – Framing of Topics

The following were raised either during interviews in advance of the forum, or during the forum.

Housing, homelessness – concern was raised that this is happening, and it was identified as a possible opportunity to work together to secure funding, resources and create solutions.

Landfill operations – tipping fees and sorting requirements for material from FireSmart activities was raised. This issue is twofold: operational, as well as prioritizing FireSmart over landfill operations.

Emergency management, including wildfire preparedness and recovery – highlighted as something that's working well in terms of governments cooperating in recent years, both in terms of emergency operations as well as preparedness initiatives such as Lillooet & Area Community Wildfire Roundtable

BC Hydro – this was raised in the context of significant amount of BC Hydro work in the region in the near future, economic opportunities (jobs, business), and trust fund opportunities for the region.

Who does what – what government or organization does what/what are they responsible for, in SLRD, DOL, LTC, SGS, P'egp'ig'lha Council, individual governments (i.e., Xaxli'p), BC or Canada. How are each funded, how do they operate?

Education – a topic raised during the forum, it was noted that there's a need to educate everyone (Indigenous and non-Indigenous, children and adults) about the history of treatment of First Nations people throughout Canada's history, for the purposes of advancing understanding and reconciliation.