

FRASER VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT  
And  
IN-SHUCK-CH NATION

*Regional Community to Community Forum*

February 28, 2007  
Leq'amel Community Hall  
Deroche, B.C.

**FINAL REPORT**

Submitted to UBCM on April 24, 2007

Submitted by:  
Suzanne Gresham Van Dooren  
Director of Corporate Administration  
Fraser Valley Regional District

## FORUM OBJECTIVES

As identified in the original proposal, this was the second "Regional Community to Community Forum" to be held between the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) and the In-SHUCK-ch Nation (IN). The first forum, held in June 2005, achieved 3 important objectives:

- 1) it offered members of the regional business community the opportunity to learn about the IN and its future economic development plans and the IN's "Seven Generations Plan";
- 2) it laid the foundation for a formal intergovernmental relationship between the two organizations, notwithstanding a more informal relationship that had existed since the mid-1990s. The participants witnessed the official signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and Protocol Agreement which identified a number of key interests and shared values in addition to outlining various principles of cooperation between the FVRD and the IN; and
- 3) it served the purpose of reinforcing relationships that had developed at the staff level while also serving as the catalyst for a series of post-forum workshops that the FVRD conducted with the IN on issues relating to regional district governance, service delivery, land use planning and corporate administration and finance.

The purpose of the second forum was to celebrate and build upon the political and organizational relationships that had evolved since the time of the first forum. Of significant and particular interest to the FVRD was the opportunity to build upon our relationship on a more personal level- we wanted to learn more about the In-SHUCK-CH people, their history, culture and heritage. We also wanted to gain a better understanding of the IN Interim Government and the IN Organizational Structure and be provided with the IN's perspective on what they hoped would be the outcome of the Treaty process. We were also interested in understanding more about the IN's plan for future economic development opportunities and other initiatives. We also

wanted this forum to provide an opportunity to review our existing MOU and to identify next steps in terms of ongoing implementation. The primary purpose of this forum was to focus on building upon the intergovernmental and staff relationships between the FVRD and the IN and to continue identifying how we can work together in partnership in the future.

In terms of meeting the objectives of this forum, we are able to identify several key success indicators:

- 1) the agenda was developed collaboratively through a series of meetings and discussions, which served to foster our working relationship
- 2) we worked together to coordinate and execute logistics for the event, including venue and meal arrangements plus numerous other details (e.g. technical support, special requirements, registration table, name tags, photocopying and passing out materials, photography, displays)
- 3) this forum focused on the IN People and provided us with an opportunity to personalize our relationship. The IN shared aspects of themselves, their history, culture, heritage, and traditional territory, most of which was heretofore unknown to us - we believe that relating to each other on a very personal level was the most significant measurement of success
- 4) we shared meals, heard stories, including the IN creation story, laughed, sang, danced, had a language lesson, learned about traditional uses of plants and cedar bark, asked questions, met and interacted with youth, elders, spiritual leaders, community members, the IN leadership, and IN staff alike, and played traditional games together, again, all on a very personal and interactive level - even when certain meanings and nuances may have been lost in the translation from time to time, there was a better understanding between the participants at the end of the day, some new relationships were forged and existing relationships were strengthened.
- 5) we were provided with an update on the IN Interim Government which paralleled a discussion about the IN Organizational Structure;

- 6) the IN provided us with a treaty update;
- 7) the MOU was discussed and implementation measures and next steps were identified;
- 8) the forum provided an opportunity for various IN members to speak publicly about themselves and their individual roles (e.g. the role of the Interim Government, staff, elders, youth, etc.) For some, this was a first opportunity to make a public presentation and was viewed as a step in building their own internal capacity. This was another significant success indicator and each individual presenter is to be commended for their presentations;
- 9) the IN had prepared a number of visual displays which were set up around the room which prompted further dialogue among the participants throughout the day;
- 10) the IN provided us with an overview of their future economic development plans and identified current initiatives;
- 11) the FVRD was provided with a preview of the inaugural In-SHUCK-CH Days celebration which will be a celebration and showcase of culture, tradition and achievements in August 2007 at the Skatin - Head of the Lake School; and
- 12) a gift exchange which symbolized the ties between the FVRD and the IN.

## PARTICIPANTS

Please reference attached List of Invitees and List of Participants (Registered Attendance). It should be noted that a special invitation was extended to the Lil'wat Nation and Scowlitz First Nation at the IN's request and representatives from both communities were in attendance. An invitation was also extended to the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) and its member municipalities in view of the overlapping traditional territory situated in both the FVRD and the SLRD. Provincial and Federal Members of the IN Treaty Team were also invited to participate. The total number of participants was 68 as broken down below:

FVRD	15
SLRD	06
BC Treaty Team	03
Federal Treaty Team	02
IN Staff	17
Samahquam Nation	08
Skatin Nation	10
Douglas First Nation	05
Lil'wat Nation	01
Scowlitz First Nation	01

## ISSUES DISCUSSED

The day started with a fairly heavy snow storm which gave the participants something to talk about as soon as they arrived. The morning started with an opportunity for participants to register, gather and greet each other over a light breakfast. The forum officially opened with a welcome ceremony which included drumming, singing and an opening prayer by IN Spiritual Advisor Watela (Wallace B. Henry). We were also welcomed by Chief Alice Thompson of the Leq'a:mel First Nation in whose community hall the forum was being held. Opening comments followed by the IN Chiefs and introductions of the IN Interim Government, staff and Elders in attendance were made to the assembly. FVRD Director Arne Zabell delivered opening remarks on behalf of FVRD Chair Clint Hames and FVRD and SLRD elected officials and staff were acknowledged and introduced.

As highlighted below, the morning and afternoon proceeded with a series of power point presentations and demonstrations delivered by the IN with "Q and A" and open dialogue throughout the day:

- Culture and Heritage
- Story Telling (Creation Story)
- Traditional Territory
- History
- Population
- Drumming and Singing
- Dancing by Gerald Gabriel, along with an opportunity for the participants to join in a group dance (reference photos)
- "The Bone Game" - an opportunity for all participants to learn and play
- In-SHUCK-ch Days preview
- Ucwalmicwts (language) lesson
- IN Governance
- Seven Generations Plan
- Administration and Corporate Structure
- Management Team
- Managing Change
- Cedar Bark Demonstration

- Economic Development and Impediments to Development
- Treaty Update
- External Relations
- Memorandum of Understanding and Protocol Agreement between the IN and the FVRD
- IN Newsletters

The assembly broke for lunch and were served a wonderful home cooked meal catered by a member of the IN community. Sharing this meal gave the participants the further opportunity to have more casual, personal and informal discussions and it was apparent that participants were enjoying themselves.

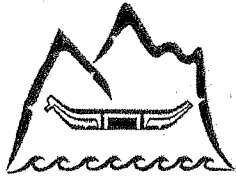
As the afternoon drew to a close, there was an opportunity for closing remarks and a gift exchange. Drawing an analogy to the proposed "Sasquatch Highway", FVRD Chair Clint Hames commented on the opportunity for the Treaty and the MOU to be used as road maps for future partnership opportunities between the FVRD and the IN. He also indicated that the FVRD would like another opportunity to visit the IN traditional territory and accepted the invitation to attend In-SHUCK-CH Days. At the conclusion of the forum, the FVRD was presented with a beautiful eagle carving which was carved by Chief Ken Smith of the Samahquam Nation. The FVRD presented gift baskets to the Chiefs of the Samahquam Nation, the Skatin Nation and the Douglas First Nation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS/OUTCOMES

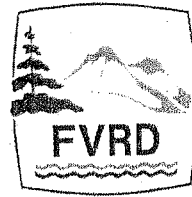
Through this forum, we believe that we have achieved the desired result of enhancing and fostering open communication, the potential for future joint ventures and partnerships and cooperative working relationships, including opportunities for service delivery to the IN by the FVRD or vice versa. In terms of more tangible outcomes, we have committed to:

- (a) the continued implementation of our MOU which will translate into building upon our inter-governmental relationship at the political level;
- (b) future "capacity building" opportunities at the staff level;
- (c) a tour of the IN traditional territory; and
- (d) circulating this Final Report to the FVRD/SLRD Board, FVRD/SLRD Member Municipalities; and the IN Interim Government and Community at Large and posting same to our respective web sites.

It should also be noted that aside from the inter-governmental relationship that currently exists (and which has been further reinforced through the Community to Community Forum process), the FVRD and the IN also have a relationship at the Treaty Table. We believe that this relationship will also serve us well in the post-treaty environment.



# Agenda



**Regional Community to Community Forum**  
*with In-SHUCK-ch Nation and the Fraser Valley Regional District.*  
**Wednesday, February 28, 2007**

- 9:00 am    Welcome and Opening Prayer  
              Drumming and Singing  
              Comments from Chief of Leq'a:mel First Nation  
              Comments from In-SHUCK-ch Chiefs  
              Introduction of In-SHUCK-ch Nation Interim Government Members  
              Introduction of In-SHUCK-ch Staff
- 9:30 am    Powerpoint Presentation by In-SHUCK-ch Nation  
              A Distinct Culture  
              In-SHUCK-ch Mountain: Flood Story  
              Transformer Sites  
              And much more...
- 11:00 am    Break
- 11:10 am    Powerpoint Presentation Continues  
              Governance  
              Ucwalmicwts Lesson  
              Administration & Structure
- 12:00 pm    Buffet Lunch
- 1:00 pm    Powerpoint presentation Continues  
              Cedar Bark Demonstration  
              Agents of Change  
              Bone Game Demonstration
- 3:00 pm    In-SHUCK-ch Nation and Fraser Valley Regional District  
              Memorandum of Understanding and Protocol Agreement  
              Gift Exchange  
              Closing Comments  
              Drumming and Singing

*Acknowledgements: Partial funding for this forum is generously provided by the Federal and Provincial governments and administered by the UBCM and First Nations Summit.*

Regional Community to Community Forum with In-SHUCK-ch Nation  
February 28, 2007  
Registered Attendance

Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD)	Clint Hames, FVRD Board Chair, Mayor City of Chilliwack Arne Zabel, Chair FVTAC, FVRD Director Electoral Area B Terry Raymond, FVRD Director Electoral Area B, UBCM representative Dave Lamson, FVRD Director, Electoral Area E Dick Bogstie, FVRD Director, Electoral Area F Gerry Kingston, FVRD CAO Suzanne Gresham, FVRD Director of Corporate Administration Hugh Sloan, FVRD Director of Planning Jane Sowik, FVRD Manager of Administrative Services Lorraine Martens, FVTAC Administrative Assistant
City of Abbotsford	Gordon Ferguson FVTAC Alternate Representative, City of Abbotsford Mgr., Bylaws & Animal Control Svcs
District of Mission	Mayor James Atebe
Village of Harrison Hot Springs	Leo Facio, Mayor Allan Jackson, Councillor Gerry van der Wolf, Village of Harrison Hot Springs CAO
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD)	Russ Oakley, SLRD Chair, Director Electoral Area A John Turner, SLRD Director Electoral Area D Allison MacDonald, SLRD Manager of Administrative Services
District of Squamish	Mayor Ian Sutherland
Resort Municipality of Whistler	Eckhard Zeidler, Councillor
BC Negotiating Team	Carole Carver, Provincial Negotiator, In-SHUCK-ch Nation Treaty Table Colleen Davis, Provincial Assistant Negotiator, In-SHUCK-ch Nation Treaty Table Jonathan Rayner, Director of Third Party Engagement, Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation
Federal Negotiating Team	Tim Koepke, Chief Federal Negotiator, In-SHUCK-ch Nation Catherine Blackstock, Federal Negotiator, In-SHUCK-ch Nation
In-SHUCK-ch Nation	Gerard Peters, Chief Negotiator Allen Gabriel, CEO Shannon Chapman, CEO Assistant Josh Alexander, Development and Planning Manager Kerry Giesbrecht, Youth Coordinator Erling Christensen, Consultant Janice Parsey, Chief Financial Officer Lori VandenBerg, Office and Finance Manager Pauline Peters, Community Information Coordinator and Researcher Vern Shanoss, Nation Task Group Sheryl Rankel, Office Assistant and Receptionist Sarah Hall, Coop Student Joe Frank, Accounting Assistant Maurice DePaoli, Cultural Researcher Michael Smith Sr., Elder Jessica Sullivan, Communications Coordinator Shawn Gabriel, Nation Task Group
Samahquam Nation	Chief Keith Smith Beryl Smith, Community Member (wife of Chief) Malcolm Smith Sr, Councillor William Schneider, Councillor Agnes Giesbrecht, Elder Gwen Thurren, Elder Laura Purcell, Elder
Skatin Nation	Chief Patrick Williams Gabe Williams, Councillor Shorty Bob, Drummer and Community Member Joy Sam, Community Member Wallace B. Henry, Cultural Facilitator Sylvester Sam, Nation Task Force Phyllis Kehoe, Elder Herman Dan, Elder Margaret Saul, Elder Saraphine Sam, Elder
Douglas First Nation	Jane Sam, Councillor Barbara Peters, Councillor Harold Jack, Elder Amber Sam, Youth Representative Basil Peters, Youth Representative Neil Phillips, Elders Coordinator
Lil'wat Nation	Gerald Gabriel, Cultural Teacher and Dancer
Scowlitz First Nation	Chief Allen Williams

Total registered: 67