

# Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 1, 2014

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## Uchucklesaht Tribe People's Assembly

March 1, 2014

Lawn Bowling Hall

Port Alberni, BC

### **Attendance:**

Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes

Dorothy Cootes

Gina Laing

Martha Titian

Chase Crowley

Constable Engle

Carla Halvorsen

Sharon Styan Sr.

Emma Thompson

Parissa Thompson

Scott Coulson

Auditor

Sabrina Crowley

James Cootes

April Thompson

Erica Laing

Monty Horton

Mike Watts

**Guests:** Constable Engle, Auditor, Mike Watts

**Call to Order:** Scott Coulson

**Prayer:** Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes

### **Adoption of Agenda:**

**Motion #01:** Agenda adopted for the day as amended.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley

Seconded: Carla Halvorsen

**Motion Carried.** (All in Favour-11) **Agenda Approved.**

Additions: Communications and Question Period

**Uchucklesaht Tribe Audit 2012-2013:** (Presented by Auditor)

**Motion #02:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to accept the Audit for 2012-2013 as presented.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley

Seconded: Carla Halvorsen

**Motion Carried** (All in Favor – 6)(1-Against) (4 –Abstentions)

**Action #01:** Some citizens would like for the audit to be mailed out to them as soon as it has been accepted by the legislature, they would like it before the Peoples Assembly.

Uchucklesaht is in a very healthy financial position. UT went from a small deficit position in earlier 2012 to a very strong surplus position in 2013.

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UT did very well with investment income and there was a good return on that money.

Elder Comment: We want reports from our council representatives, something like the monthly reports or a family meeting with our council reps.

Reply: There are the annual reports presented every year from the council. Minutes are always available to the membership to review and newsletters are sent out monthly.

### **Uchucklesaht Tribe Draft Budget 2014-2015:**

On Break - Question: Will medical process be the same in 10 years or will there be another paper process? Will our status cards be phased out or is that just the taxes?

On Break - Answer: Will send out details to questions.

The budget is balanced.

Henderson Lodge – there was mice in there and that issue has been resolved. The lodge has been cleaned up and the mold has been cleaned up as well. The lodge is in good shape and now UT plans to gain revenue by renting it out. The lodge is open to UT membership to use as long as they sign off on the policy. There is a gate that has been put in just before the lodge.

Communications: UT Citizens would like some additional communications – some prefer to receive emailed documents instead of hard copy paper document to save our nation on paper costs. Need someone to search for UT peoples requests for hard copy or emailed documents. Also would like UT to consider having an internet page maintained by an administrator where people can post their concerns or complaints regarding the nation.

**Action #02:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Administration will be contacting people to see if they prefer to receive their mail via email or hard copy.

Council – new budget line added since UT is now a member of the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District.

Question: I did get my name changed. What is the process to do this for status cards?

Answer: The citizenship and enrolment registrar can help you complete that paperwork.

Education Services – budget for secondary school tuition has tripled this year. UT pays NTC for their services and students that meet their educational criteria and deadlines get funded.

Health Services – UT pays into NTC services for health.

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Elders Gathering – elders will need to decide where they would like to go this year – there is funding for them.

**Action #03:** Additional information regarding Uchucklesaht Tribe programs and services will be included in every UT newsletter so that people will know more detail about all of the services.

Marine Transport – low rider runs are down to two scheduled runs per month. There are no school students living in the village.

Connector Road – construction of a road into the village of Ehtlathese is in the works. The road will be approximately 3 km long.

Comment: Living in Port Alberni is expensive and Port Alberni is more dangerous to live at. Will the connector road maintenance be expensive and more dangerous?

Answer: Yes, there will be road maintenance and UT does have their own equipment to help with the maintenance of the road but not for roads not owned by Uchucklesaht Tribe.

Comment: In Port Alberni, I think there is too much pollution and I don't like the water.

Comment: Has the tribe looked for additional funding for a school boat?

Answer: Yes, we will be meeting with the minister of education to discuss this concern.

Comment: Not having a boat into our village regularly has caused some extreme stress. I want our council to brainstorm some solutions to this problem. We want to be able to ride into the village on the boat more often.

Comment: The boat is our bridge for our people to make it home to the village – it is the only way to bring our people back to the village. Our people come first, we want this boat service.

**Motion #03:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly recommends to the legislature that they reinstate the Low Rider Boat to full service.

Moved: Gina Laing

Seconded: Dorothy Cootes

**Motion Carried.** (All in Favour – 9) (Abstentions – 2)

Comment: I would like information on our family tree. Has the tribe considered completing that work and using some programs to assist with that work? You can access ancestry.com to help complete the family trees.

Reply: Yes, Citizenship & Enrolment Registrar has been working on the family trees for all Uchucklesaht Tribe families. She can share with you, your family tree and will look into the additional programs to assist her with completing that family tree work.

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Note: We need to improve village maintenance in order to bring more UT people home to the village and so village work will be done to improve the village.

Fish Distribution – UT has been distributing the full allotments.

Concern: Fish and the Japan Radiation – I am concerned about this.

Reply: NTC directors have discussed this issue and requested the government test our food and resources.

Comment: Yes, right now our shellfish is often tested but we do need to make sure we protect our resources, if we lose that, we should be compensated.

Reply: If the allotment is not there for MFN's anymore, then compensation would be negotiated.

A tourism coordinator will be hired on this year to move forward with the Uchucklesaht Tribe Economic Development Plans. One area the coordinator will be working on is the Snug Marina/Fuel Station/Motel study.

Park Protection – the legislature have the law clerk working on an act to protect an area out at Henderson Lake as a park. There is some cedar in there that is over 250 to 1000 years old.

Land Use Planning and Emergency Preparedness – We will have emergency kits in the village of Ehtlateese. They will contain food, blankets, first aid supplies, flashlights, batteries, etc...UT is currently working on a communications plan process for the Emergency Preparedness Plan. Director of Lands and Resources is currently searching for some emergency kit contents and will be searching the clinic for that.

Investments – settlement trust, implementation fund, resource revenue sharing, operating reserve. We put funds in the trust for our future. We keep building that and the trust company manages that. It stays in the trust for the UT for future use. UT protects these funds here and it is our strategy to save money for people for future uses, programs and services.

Uchucklesaht does have a balanced budget for 2014/2015.

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Funeral Expenses is not a lined budget item. You or your estate would be responsible for those funeral expenses. You should put so much aside for this planning each year.

**Motion #04:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly recommends to the legislature that they include a lined item in the budget for funeral basic expenses each year to assist with the funeral costs of Uchucklesaht Tribe people.

Moved: James Cootes

Seconded: Sharon Styan - elder

**Motion Carried.** (All in Favour – 9) (Abstentions – 2)

**Motion #05:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly accepts and have discussed the Uchucklesaht Tribe Annual Budget of 2013-2014 and three year financial plan as presented and may be amended.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley

Seconded: Gina Laing

**Motion Carried.** (All in Favour – 11)

### **RCMP Update- Tripartite Agreement:**

UT and the RCMP did sign a letter of expectation that sets out the service expectations of the RCMP to the UT. Priorities were set in the letter of expectation and the RCMP has been working with Uchucklesaht Tribe regularly.

### **Advisory Planning Commission Update:**

**Motion #06:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to discuss and receive an update regarding the Advisory Planning Commission and the Official Community Plan.

Moved: James Cootes

Seconded: Sharon Styan Sr.

(All in Favor – 11)

**Motion Carried**

There are members of the Advisory Planning Commission Sabrina Crowley, Tina Halvorsen, Phyllis Halvorsen, Gina Laing, Jayleen Sam, and Dorothy Cootes working on drafting a draft Uchucklesaht Tribe Official Community Plan and will recommend to the legislature to accept the plan. There is room for one more member.

Comment: Sharon Styan Sr is interested in becoming a member of the APC.

Reply: Monty will bring this request to the next executive meeting to appoint Sharon Styan Sr. as an APC member.

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(The Official Community Plan is reviewed with the Peoples Assembly)

Once the plan is in place, it will be a living document.

## **Wildfire Protection:**

**Motion #07:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to discuss the Wildfire Protection Plan.

Moved: Gina Laing

Seconded: Sharon Styan – elder

(All in Favor – 11)

*Motion Carried*

This plan is under the umbrella of the Emergency Preparedness Plan.

(The UT Wildfire Protection Plan is handed out to all of the Peoples Assembly)

## **Question Period:**

**Motion #08:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to discuss Question Period.

Moved: Dorothy Cootes

Seconded: April Thompson

(All in Favor – 11)

*Motion Carried*

Question: Who is responsible for cleaning up that burned up house by the mobile homes?

Answer: The owner is responsible to clean that up. The owner did not want for UT to touch anything on the house site. If the mess is there much longer, then our director will have to take action by using one of our acts and following that process. It could be a safety concern.

## **Adjourn:**

**Motion #09:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to adjourn the meeting of the day.

Moved: Carla Halvorsen

Seconded: Sharon Styan – elder

***Motion Carried*** (All in Favor – 11)

**MEETING ADJOURNED**