

Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly August 16, 2014

Uchucklesaht Tribe People's Assembly

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Lawn Bowling Hall

Port Alberni, BC

Attendance:

Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes

Dorothy Cootes

Scott Coulson

Thomas Rush

Lorraine Cootes

Carla Halvorsen

James Cootes

Monty Horton

Wilfred Cootes Jr.

Megan Cootes

Sabrina Crowley

Chase Crowley

Brianna Lambert

Clifford Charles

Mathew Titian

Guests: Auditor – Eddy from BMO and Audio/Video Darryl Ross

Call to Order: Scott Coulson

Prayer: Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes

Adoption of Agenda:

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

Moved: Wilfred Cootes Jr.

Seconded: Thomas Rush

(All in Favour-11)

Motion Carried

Uchucklesaht Tribe Audit (2013-2014):

Motion #02: The Uchucklesaht Tribe Audit of 2013-2014 is accepted as presented.

Moved: Clifford Charles

Seconded: Thomas Rush

Motion Carried. (All in Favour – 11)

Designated Trust Funds did very well this year and worked in the favor of the Uchucklesaht Tribe.

(Review of Audit completed with auditor)

Executive & Legislative Annual Report:

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Motion #03: Agree to receive and discuss the Executive & Legislative Annual Report 2013-2014.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley

Seconded: Thomas Rush

(All in Favour – 11)

Motion Carried

Message from the Chief Councillor, Executive Council Profiles, Executive Meetings, Regulations, Agreements, Plans, legislative meetings, enactment of laws, appointment of positions, and completed terms of references overviews.

Question: Was the Somas Building Inspected before it was purchased? What is the status of the Somas Building?

Answer: Updates on the building are coming up later in the Somas Building report.

Peoples Assemblies and review of all motions and recommendations, ongoing activities, land use planning and official community planning, somas building purchase, Tribal Park protected areas, specific claims updates.

Citizenship & Enrolment and Culture & Heritage Updates Presented.

Referendum and Work Plan – there were a total of 106 votes cast and four out of the six proposed amendments were accepted.

Economic Development – the Uchucklesaht Tribe Economic Development Committee consists of the Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes, Economic Development Officer Scott Coulson and Dave Kozjeki. An Economic Development Plan will be updated annually.

Uchucklesaht Tribe Projects – there was a water system upgrade, water tower improvements, connector road to the village, a fishing boat purchased for UT operations, and plans for elk relocation into Uchucklesaht Tribe Territory.

Financial Planning – Council annually works on the three year financial planning.

Overview of the Settlement Trust, Resource Revenue Sharing and Implementation Funds is given in the report.

Uchucklesaht Tribe purchases NTC Services and annually signs off an agreed to agreement.

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Council will move forward with the fisheries strategic planning, official community planning, UT/RCMP Consultative Group Work, Cultural Packages, Laws, Regulations, Budget, Various Duties and Powers and Department Overviews.

Through a Park Act, the council was successful in protecting two important old growth areas in the Henderson Lake Areas (maps of the two areas are shown in the report).

Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Finance Report:

Motion #04: Agree to review and discuss the Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Finance Annual Report 2013-2014.

Moved: Thomas Rush

Seconded: Megan Cootes

(All in Favor – 11)

Motion Carried

Water System Upgrade was completely funded by AANDC at a cost of 1.5 million dollars. The upgrade is complete in the village of Ehtlateese.

Village Maintenance – is ongoing and doing good.

Solid Waste Handling – work is being explored.

Wharf and Subdivision Proposals – have been put forward.

Emergency Preparedness work is complete.

Fisheries Food Fish Distributions – ongoing and fish are being caught.

UT Cabin is being worked on and UT is attempting to rent the building out.

Green Cove Store – there is a plan to move that store over into Snug Basin – there will be a feasibility study done to see if that would work.

Comment: Don't believe that moving the store/fuel operations into Snug Basin would be a good location. You are taking the ideal location away from fishermen that currently drive right by that store located out at that point. You are making people travel further to get their fuel. Snug Basin is also an aquaculture area – oysters were once put on that beach by the creek to test it out. We need to consider how this would all impact this area.

Reply: We think that being close to UT infrastructure would benefit any employees working for the Green Cove Store and hopefully the feasibility study for the Green Cove Store shows some good results. There is currently no aquaculture operating in Snug Basin right now.

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Economic Development Officer Report:

Cass Creek Micro Hydro work was put to a halt and BC Hydro will not fund the hydro line.

Green Cove Store – feel that the location may not be feasible in order for the store to make any revenue.

Somas Building Purchase – detailed overview and drawings of the plan is reviewed with the citizens/enrollees.

- Idea: put sound silencing in between the floors.
- Gift Shop could be put in the cultural area.

(BREAK FOR LUNCH 12PM-1PM)

Motion #05: Agree to review and discuss the Director of Lands & Resources Annual Report 2013-2014.

Moved: Megan Cootes

Seconded: Wilfred Cootes Jr.

(All in Favor – 11)

Motion Carried

Question: MC Wright & Associates Assessment Report was done and site was explored at the Henderson Lake. Recommendations to protect areas are in that report for the purpose of protecting beach spawning habitats. Will our tribe protect those areas? I sent the report to the Director of Lands & Resources.

Reply: Yes, received that report. Substrate falls under different jurisdiction and yes Uchucklesaht can protect important areas. UT can zone areas without being specific to protect just the fish spawning areas to ensure there is no commercial development in those areas.

Director of Human Services Annual Report:

Motion #06: Agree to review and discuss the Director of Human Services Annual Report 2013-2014.

Moved: Megan Cootes

Seconded: Wilfred Cootes Jr.

(All in Favor – 11)

Motion Carried

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NTC Social Development changed from having their own policy to following the AANDC Social Development policy effective July 1, 2014. Uchucklesaht has continued with NTC's old SD policy as AANDC's policy meant there would be cuts in amounts paid to some families on SA and there is no longer any travel covered for social assistance clients; these cuts have not applied to Uchucklesaht's on SA. The first UT draft Social Development Policy has been send to the Executive for feedback.

Uchucklesaht hosted an Aboriginal Day event held at Athletic Hall, made possible with a \$3000 contribution from First Nations Health. The event was well attended and throughout the day people came in to hear singing and drumming; to participate in some cedar weaving; little drum making; to get brushed off and/or cleansed by Cultural workers from Quu asa.

Aboriginal Day Packages were distributed to citizens in the Port Alberni area - \$1000 was received from FNHA to contribute to purchasing items for this package. Geraldine has also prepared enough craft kits for each package on small drums and cedar work. Also included will be information on Traditional foods, eating on a Budget, recipes for Traditional foods. Aboriginal Day events will be taking place at various places throughout the Valley and this information will be shared in the package.

Information is generally sent through mail outs; through the Uchucklesaht Web and in some cases by phone calls when opportunities in employment come to the department's attention. Human Services also continues to maintain contact with NETP who provides a number of training opportunities; or knows of job opportunities so that this is continually shared with citizens.

Have attended a number of First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) and FNH Directors meetings throughout the year; the final agreement for FNHA was signed in July 2013 with services transferred over to FNHA in October 2013; March 26, 2014 - Health Info lunch facilitated by Deanna; held at the Lawn Bowling, providing self-care; access to information from health service providers. An opportunity to enjoy a meal together and share some good information on health.

Adjourn:

Motion #07: Peoples Assembly Meeting of the day is adjourned.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley

Seconded: Thomas Rush

(All in Favor – 11)

Motion Carried

MEETING ADJOURNED