

# Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly March 1, 2012

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## Uchucklesaht Tribe People's Assembly

March 1, 2012

Lawn Bowling Hall

Port Alberni, BC

### Attendance:

Scott Coulson – Facilitator/Chair (CAO/DOF)	Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes
Joe Ginger	Carla Halvorsen
Sharon Styan – Elder	Dorothy Cootes
Gina Laing	Deanna Mercadel
Warren Robinson	Clifford Charles
Charlotte Rampanen	Wilfred Cootes Jr.
Lorraine Cootes	Thomas Rush
Pamela Watts	Sabrina Crowley
Martin Sam	

Call to Order: Scott Coulson

Prayer: Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes

### Adoption of Agenda:

**Motion #01:** Agenda adopted for the day with addition of Amendment to Elections Act.

Moved: Carla Halvorsen      Seconded: Warren Robinson

**Motion Carried.** (All in Favour-14) Agenda Approved.

Uchucklesaht Tribe Draft Budget: (Presented by Director of Finance Scott Coulson)

The Three Year Financial Plan starting 2012/2013 is reviewed with Citizens/Enrollees.

### Department 150 – Chief & Council:

There was a report on remuneration for council last year and that cost was paid for in this department under contract wages. Contract Wages will go to \$10,000 for 2012-2013 and then down to \$5000 in the budget in the next fiscal year.

Council Honorarium has also been lowered in the years to follow to show more accurate numbers.

Legal Budget has been lowered to \$25,000

Council does receive communication, reading and travel allowances.

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Council Discretionary is \$50,000 (emergency funds for the Uchucklesaht Tribe)

Supplies – are file cabinets and lap tops for councillors. Uchucklesaht Tribe plans on going paper less in the future.

The Chief Administrative Officer did an analysis and found that Uchucklesaht Tribe will save money by going paperless – using less paper on meeting kits and saving time for employees who have to put the kits together.

The Lap Tops and Cabinets are all the sole property of the Uchucklesaht Tribe. A policy will be put in place for council to sign off on before property is released.

## Department 160 Elections:

Budget of \$3000 put in place for next three years in the case of any by-elections. If you don't use funds, it goes into a surplus and usually is put into a reserve and invested.

## Department 170 Membership:

Peoples Assembly Costs – facilitator costs, meeting costs, travel costs, venue, etc...

Family Funds – Cut (these funds are cut in the next three years but there is an idea to put them back in in year four when there is a need for elections) There will be no funds available in the budget for this year.

## Department 357 Enrollment:

This department is used to fund the Citizenship & Enrolment Committee.

There used to be an Eligibility and Enrolment Committee before treaty that needed to get pre-treaty work done. That committee was no longer required after treaty.

With the Maa-nulth Treaty and the Uchucklesaht Laws – a Citizenship and Enrolment Committee requirement was put in place. This committee is to be comprised of one registrar, one councillor and one elder.

The Council appointed all committee representatives on January 6, 2012.

*Uchucklesaht Elder/Citizen* – I am not happy because I don't feel I was informed that there was no longer an Eligibility and Enrolment Committee.

**Action #01:** Uchucklesaht Tribe will send a notice out to the Uchucklesaht Tribe citizens/enrollees of all representation on various committees or working groups. Information will be sent out in a mail out and also posted on the Uchucklesaht Tribe Website.

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## Department 100 Administration:

Contract Wages have been lowered and the Legal Budget has been increased.

Under this department Uchucklesaht purchases the Hashilthsa Newspaper Service. This is where we get the audio/video services and also free advertising when needed.

There are benefits to purchasing this newspaper service.

Lockable Notice Boards are going to be put into the village – we could also put the additional Hashilthsa Newspapers there for distribution.

*Uchucklesaht Elder/Citizen* – I would prefer that the newspapers are distributed into peoples' mailboxes in the village at each home.

Director of Lands and Resources will be hired this year – so there is an increase in Administration Wages for this year as well. The Director of Lands and Resources Position is being advertised on the Uchucklesaht Website and in various newspapers.

*Uchucklesaht Citizen/Enrollee Comment* – Would like to see monthly newsletters/updates being mailed to the citizens and enrollees again. Not everyone has access to the website to see the updates.

Uchucklesaht Tribe is looking at creating a Communications Strategy this year and will look into this recommendation as part of the strategy.

Uchucklesaht Tribe Rent Cost Recovery will also drop since there will no longer be renting space revenue being received from the tribe.

## Department 205 School Boat:

There has been new motors purchased for the school boat and there has been an increase in charters and fares.

There has also been a small increase in telephone and fax costs in this department.

## Department 345 Water Sampling:

Funds come into this department specifically to complete the water testing in the village of Ehtlateese for Uchucklesaht Tribe.

Water Samples from water in the village are taken and brought up to the Uchucklesaht Tribe Office to be tested regularly.

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Water tests can come from wherever in the village you would like, but you should alternate locations when testing occurs.

Uchucklesaht Tribe will include water testing at the home located up by the river in future water tests.

There is an incubator system that the Uchucklesaht Tribe uses that is actually the same type of unit that the lab uses.

Uchucklesaht Charges this department for the Low Rider Boat Delivery cost here.

### Department 250 Maintenance:

*Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizen/Enrollee Concern* – the village of Ehtlathese is in need of firefighting equipment and firefighting supplies.

**Action #02:** The Chief Administrative Officer will look into possibility of getting a fire fighting truck – there may be a used one that Uchucklesaht Tribe can access. Funds are also being searched for to purchase firefighting equipment for the village.

**Motion #02:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizens/Enrollees recommend increasing the funds for Capital Purchase of Equipment under department 250 Maintenance from \$1000 to \$5000.

Moved: Warren Robinson

Seconded: Martin Sam

(All in Favour-14)

**Action #03:** FNEsc or INAC may have funds that Uchucklesaht Tribe can access and the Chief Administrative Officer will also look into those possibilities.

**Action #04:** Port Alberni Fire Department might have surplus equipment that Uchucklesaht Tribe can access – Chief Administrative Officer will find out if there are any such types of surplus equipment available.

Fuel – Generator: There are no funds needed here as the Remote Community Electrification Project is being funded from AANDC and will be up and running by the end of March 2012.

Uchucklesaht Tribe pays BC Hydro to provide the service. Uchucklesaht Tribe will also be paying for all resident bills in the first five years after the power generation system is up and running. After five years, residents will be responsible for their own bills.

Uchucklesaht Tribe will have Power Smart Programs and information sessions in place during the next five years so that Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizens/Enrollees are educated about the use of power and how to conserve before they have to pay their own BC Hydro bills.

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Budget has been put in for a new All-Terrain Vehicle at the cost of \$15,000.

*Uchucklesaht Citizen/Enrollee Concern* – There is a sate light box located where the old generation system is located. This sate light overheats in the summertime and everyone's internet is affected because it shuts down. I recommend that we move the sate light box over and shelter it somehow to protect it.

The old generator system building will be decommissioned and Uchucklesaht Tribe needs to move the building to rid of any contaminated soil under and around the building. There is hope that the building will be able to be used elsewhere.

Cell Tower – the Chief Administrative Officer is searching for communication funding so that a cell tower can be put in at the village of Ehtlateese.

Repairs to Village Dock – funds put in budget for this work.

### Department 305 Six-Plex:

Currently the tribe is going to rent out the six-plex units for a few different contractors working in the village. Units will be furnished.

*Uchucklesaht Citizen/Enrollee Questions:* How many smart meters will be installed on the six-plex? What will the upgrades be to the building? Will Uchucklesaht Government be paying the hydro bills for the six-plex? Will cost of hydro bills be included in the rent? How many more years until we pay off that loan on the six-plex?

*Answers:* Just got the details today on how many smart meters will be installed – will come back with details for you. Each building will have an upgrade summary sent to owners – those should be done soon. Uchucklesaht Tribe will be paying all hydro bills for the first five years – summary of each individual bill will be sent to each homeowner to prepare them as to what they use in electricity. Uchucklesaht will still have to determine how and what they will charge renters for hydro in the future. There are still quite a few more years left on the loan for the six-plex before that is paid off.

### Department 275 Housing/Capital:

Uchucklesaht is currently renting out one of the homes – the maintenance house to contractors.

Uchucklesaht pays the insurance on band assets but is looking into extending the option to the Uchucklesaht Citizens/Enrollees with homes in the village to insure their own homes as well.

### Department 310 Mobile Homes:

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Currently both mobile homes are being rented out to citizens/enrollees.

## Department 304 Rural Electrification:

The generators related to the Remote Electrification Project should be installed by April 30, 2012.

In this department, some people have their honorarium covered because they are participating in the working meetings, and on the remote community electrification project.

Funding is funded by AANDC and Uchucklesaht will transfer monies to BC Hydro for the remote community electrification project.

Any cost to run the system that goes over budget is the responsibility of BC Hydro.

## Department 215 FNEESC:

Uchucklesaht Tribe receives funds here from FNEESC to pay for certain activities such as the Christmas Party for families.

## Department 200 Education:

We restored services in this department such as books, supplies, scholarships, student allowances, student awards, graduation, honor roll, adult training, and transport – school field trips.

***Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizen/Enrollee Recommendation: Create a full time Summer Student Position where the student can encourage other youth by being a role model and encouraging youth to graduate and education themselves.***

Training – Adult: The Uchucklesaht Tribe will ensure that guidelines are set for this fund before there is access to this specific funding.

## Department 501 Social Development:

This is funded through block funding.

## Department 502 Medical Travel:

This is funded through NTC (all patient travel)

## Department 503 Child Welfare:

Picnic, Swim Tickets, Travel, Etc....

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## Department 504 Health:

Services include: bottled water, elders hamper, elders gathering (this year elders gathering is on July 11, 12, and 13<sup>th</sup>), medications, supplies, special needs, clinic supplies, etc...

***Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizen/Enrollee Recommendation: Would like Uchucklesaht Tribe to purchase a vehicle live a van to have available to transport youth and elders on the various trips planned throughout the year. This may work out better than renting vehicles for these events. The tribe could also rent out the vehicle to create revenue.***

## Department 510 Culture and Heritage:

***Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizen/Enrollee Recommendation: Would like language classes – there are many of us that are interested in taking those classes. NTC is having classes to teach our traditional language soon. I would like the Director of Human Services to look into those classes.***

## Department 410 Shellfish Operations:

This department is mainly funded through block funding.

## Department 351 Treaty Right Fisheries:

Food and Commercial Fisheries Funds are in this department. The Director of Lands and Resources wages are also included in this department.

***Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizen/Enrollee Recommendation: I see a trend that extra fish from food fisheries that gets distributed is not evenly distributed – I would rather that all extra fish that don't get picked up are processed and stored away for members to access later on.***

Uchucklesaht Tribe will have the Director of Lands and Resources and HUU-ay-aht to ensure that there is a very organized fishery this year.

***Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizen/Enrollee Recommendation: I would like to see food distributions of crabs and prawns as well. Not all of us are able to access those resources – no boat or live too far away.***

Fisheries Technician Wages are included in this year's budget.

Fisheries Reserve has been set up to have funds available for fisheries – putting money away from future use.

Halibut License is leased year to year. It will go out this year for the highest bidder.

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Roe Herring – they are spawning too deep but we might be able to get herring whole with roe in it.

Mosquito Fleet – members would like the opportunity to bid on those licenses.

Uchucklesaht is actually receiving funding to purchase those licenses.

Uchucklesaht Tribe is looking into Halibut and Black Cod Quota.

### Department 420 Henderson Lodge:

Revenue – sale of back hoe

Director of Lands and Resources Wages are taken from this department as well.

Western Forest Products will grade the road to the lodge. They are going to be heli-logging in that area. Western will be dropping logs in the lake.

*Uchucklesaht Citizen/Enrollee Question:* Will the lodge ever be opened up again for the public to rent? I am interested in staying up at the lodge again one day.

*Answer:* There is no plan yet to open up the lodge for rentals.

*Uchucklesaht Citizen/Enrollee Concern:* I am very concerned about the drop zones being in the Henderson Lake. I don't want logs being dropped there. This can have a negative impact on our salmon and their spawning. Sediment can suffocate the eggs. I do not want drop zones to be in the Henderson Lake and want to see the management plan that has been put in place. Finer sediment can smother these salmon eggs. The flow and cleanliness of water is important here.

*Answer:* Uchucklesaht Tribe has approved the management plan for this particular logging drop zone and will send you a copy of the management plan that western has sent the Uchucklesaht Tribe. There will be debris pickers out in the water, netting, and it will be monitored by environmental monitors as well as underwater camera inspection afterwards. This is not a multi-year application.

### Department 710 Economic Development:

On Monday March 5, 2012 Brent Lehmann from Ratcliff and Company will be coming in to the Uchucklesaht Office to give a presentation to the Council regarding an Economic Development Structure and also Directors and Duties of Directors.

There is funding available here for setting up the Economic Development Structure.

### Department 733 Forestry:



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Uchucklesaht Tribe has a numbered company and Ray Bartram has been managing the forestry operations for the tribe.

There are projected revenues in the numbered company. Information will be available on the company in the near future.

### Department 920 Emergency Response Planning:

The Director of Lands and Resources will lead this work. A committee and consultant would be put in place to ensure that the detailed procedures regarding emergency response planning is put in place.

### Department 990 Administration Building:

Consultant fees have been put aside in this department to ensure that some work is being done to plan for an Uchucklesaht Tribe Administration Building.

### Department 750 Resource Revenue Sharing:

The Maa-nulth First Nations negotiated in treaty and this fund is paid to Uchucklesaht Tribe annually.

BC shares the revenue with the Maa-nulth First Nations from their collection of stumpage collected from on the Maa-nulth First Nation Lands.

### Department 355 Settlement Trust:

This is capital transfer and investment income. The average projected return is about 7%. Investments create income, not interest.

Treaty Negotiation Loan Repayments are also made from the Uchucklesaht Tribe Government.

### Department 356 Implementation Funds – Invested:

These funds are all invested into the Implementation Fund.

### Department 358 Implementation Activities – One Time:

Fishing Rights, Information Systems Development, Website, Registry of Laws, File System, Management Framework Support, etc...

### Department 359 Implementation Activities – On Going:

Interest Income – paid to Uchucklesaht Tribe by the federal government.

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Maa-nulth Common Costs and Administration Costs are covered in here.

**Action #05:** Uchucklesaht Tribe send the lined item list of common Maa-nulth Nations activities that need to be completed in treaty.

The determination was made that it would save the Maa-nulth First Nations financially to group together and get common activities completed at this time.

*Uchucklesaht Citizen/Enrollee Concern:* I thought that were going to get rid of the treaty society at effective date of the treaty when we all became our own government nations. That treaty society should no longer be in place. I don't want a government above a government type of structure. We need to be independent.

*Answer:* The Maa-nulth Treaty Society is not another government. This society is made up of the Maa-nulth First Nation Governments and that nations have decided to continue for a while longer to keep the society so that we can work on common activities together and save on costs.

### Department 240 Capital Asset/ Operating Reserve:

This is placed into an operating reserve.

### Total Invested:

The plan is that in four years there will be approximately 10 million invested for the Uchucklesaht Tribe.

*Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizen/Enrollee Concern:* I used to get homemaker services, what has happened with that service?

*Answer:* This service is covered under the NTC Services. The Director of Human Services will get that information for you. Uchucklesaht Tribe has not budgeted for a service like this.

Uchucklesaht created a budget with a surplus and will reinvest those funds.

With an operating reserve of \$500,000 in three years – you can now fund deficits if needed.

### Amendment to Elections Act: (Presented by Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes and Clifford Charles)

There has been an amendment to the Elections Act and Referendum Act to include the provision of a mail in ballot. The new act is called the Mail In Ballot Amendment Act UTS 22/2012.

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Informing people is important and we need to ensure that a monthly or weekly newsletter and notices are sent out to the Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizens/Enrollees. Not everyone has access to the internet to access the website.

Transparency of a government is important – let's study the best method of informing our people. Communications can be a challenge.

The referendum that was held to amend the constitution required 50% + 1 of the eligible voters to vote in favor for amendments to occur. There were not enough voters and the referendum failed. The cost was approximately \$5000 for that failed vote. The constitution did not get amended.

We need all of our members to get out and vote.

### **Date and Location of Next Peoples Assembly:**

**Motion #03:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Citizens/Enrollees agree that the next Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly will be on June 29, 2012 in Port Alberni, BC at either the Port Alberni Lawn Bowling Hall or the Echo Center as the alternate location. Moved: Phyllis Halvorsen

Seconded: Warren Robinson

**Motion Carried** (All in Favor-13) (Opposed – 1)

### **Adjourn Meeting:**

**Motion #04:** There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned. Moved: Sharon Styan – elder Seconded: Thomas Rush

**Motion Carried** (All in Favor-14)

**MEETING ADJOURNED**