



Snuneymuxw First Nation

Trust Planning Working Group

79 Acre Specific Claim

***** Important Update *****

June 25, 2015

Dear Snuneymuxw Members

In 2014, Canada made an offer to SFN to settle the 79 acre claim. The offer was for roughly \$49,150,000 less the loan to SFN for negotiation costs, or a net amount of \$47,992,000.

In February of this year, Chief and Council unanimously agreed to submit the 79 acre settlement to SFN members for a vote. This is a legal requirement. For the 79 acre settlement to be finalized, a majority of eligible SFN voters must vote in favour of the settlement. The current plan is hold the vote on the 79 acre settlement in December of this year.

At the same time, SFN members will vote on a trust agreement establishing a community trust for the funds received from Canada to settle the 79 acre claim. This trust agreement will set out in detail how the funds can be used, a process for appointing and removing trustees, accountability and reporting requirements, and so on. This trust agreement will ensure that the funds received from Canada are properly managed for the benefit of SFN members as a whole.

Before a vote on the 79 acre settlement and the trust agreement is held, considerable work must be completed. A critical part of this work is trust planning. Trust planning is the internal process by which community input is obtained, information is collected and decisions are made on the design of the trust and the trust agreement. This information will be used by SFN's lawyers, Woodward & Company, to draft the trust agreement.

To guide the trust planning process, a Trust Planning Working Group composed of SFN members has been established. The members of the Trust Planning Working Group were appointed by Chief and Council and include the following people:

Jimmy Johnny
Collette Jones
Irene Seward
Bill White
Leonor Wyse

Brianna Wyse
Joe White
Margaret White
Pat Wyse
Bill Yoachim

The role of the Trust Planning Working Group is to advise and make recommendations to Chief and Council and the SFN community as a whole on the creation of a community trust that meets the needs and objectives of Snuneymuxw. In carrying out their work, the Trust Planning Working Group will develop a work plan that includes extensive consultations with SFN members about their vision and expectations for a trust. The Trust Planning Working Group will also ensure that SFN members are given the information they need to make an informed decision when they vote on the 79 acre settlement and trust agreement in December of this year.

The Trust Planning Working Group will be supported in its work by professionals in trust planning including Deloitte (a very large firm that specializes in trust planning for First Nations) and Woodward & Company (a leading law firm with expertise in First Nation trusts). The Trust Planning Working Group will also be supported by SFN staff and advisors.

To reach SFN members and obtain their input, many activities are planned. These activities include community meetings, mailings, the use of surveys or questionnaires and so on. It is very important for SFN members to participate in these activities when they can to ensure their views and opinions are heard and the best possible decisions are made in creating a community trust.

Trust Planning Working Group