

**Brief  
Council of Chiefs Meeting  
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council**

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Opening Prayer was said by Councillor Marion Lee.

**Intergovernmental with other First Nations**

- **Follow up to the Green Lake Gathering of October 20<sup>th</sup>**

Acting Tribal Director Bonnie Leonard said that, later this month, there will be a meeting between the Secwepemc chiefs and regional district officials to review the Green Lake Official Community Plan.

**Rights (People) and Title (Land)**

- Chief Wayne Christian reported that he is working with government representatives to organize a meeting between the 10 SNTC chiefs and a number of provincial Ministers.

**Governance**

- **Wap Creek**

The late elder, Dr. Mary Thomas (Neskonlith) and her family utilized the area known as Wap Creek to exercise their rights and title as Secwepemc people. Wap Creek is also a significant cultural and spiritual area.

Accordingly, the chiefs resolved to support the proposed Government Actions Regulation Order (GAR) in an effort to forever protect this area from development, or destruction, in the future.

Chief Judy Wilson said that both Neskonlith and Splatstin elders support the protection of Wap Creek. Supporting the proposed GAR, “is one step, in many steps, to protect the land,” she added.

- **Esh-ke-am Cultural Resources Management Services**

Esh-ke-am is owned as a joint venture between the Coldwater, Cook's Ferry, Nooaitch and Siska Indian Bands. It has offices in Merritt and Spence's Bridge. Among the services they offer is Land Management and Referrals.

In order to gain an understanding of their business and, specifically, any potential activity in Secwepemc territory, the Acting Tribal Director recommended that a meeting be set up between the Thompson and Secwepemc chiefs.

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- **B.C. Capacity Initiative funding proposal (A.R.&T. department)**

The goal of this proposal is to build on past successes and utilize technology to create better management tools to be used by all SNTC bands when approaching issues of land and resource governance. The chiefs support this initiative.

- **Finance Committee**

Chief Keith Matthew reported on key items from the work of the Finance Committee.

There are concerns with the “lag time” in funding from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to the Secwepemc Fisheries Commission (SFC), as well as the “onerous” narrative reporting requirements placed on the SFC. The Committee feels that the Portfolio Holder needs to address this with the DFO.

The Committee is currently drafting a Financial Management Policy. In addition, BDO Dunwoody has been selected, from four competing proposals, to be the independent auditor.

Chief Matthew also explained that usefulness in preparing two annual budgets, an “austerity” budget and one that reflects the “upper range” of spending projections, in order to frame the decision-making process and make realistic estimates. He also sees the usefulness for a long-term budget for multi-year planning.

The Committee will meet on the last Thursday of each month.

- **HR Policy Review**

The Acting Tribal Director is endeavouring to consolidate SNTC’s Human Resource policy.

A draft is circulating amongst chiefs and SNTC staff. Following revisions, the document will then be reviewed by a labour lawyer.

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**Cultural and Social**

- **B.C. Elder's Gathering, Salmon Arm, July 13 to 15, 2010**

Elder J.D. Billy brought the Council up-to-date.

A main theme of the Gathering will be the re-awakening of Secwepemc songs and dances. The next meeting for this activity will be November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Adams Lake Spiritual Centre.

The chiefs approved that J.D. Billy carry the Secwepemc flag until July, 2010. The also pledged \$500.00 to the King and Queen, J.D. and Ethel Billy, to help them with their travel costs when visiting nations throughout B.C. A letter will also be sent to SNTC member bands asking them to match.

Adams Lake will take the lead in organizational work over the next nine months. SNTC will start helping with proposal writing and creating posters.

The Elders will next meet in Bonaparte on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

- **Youth Council**

Reanna Leonard submitted a Youth Council report. They will be meeting on the second Monday of every month. She said that the youth group is ready to help out with the Elder's Gathering in any way they can.

Josh Gottfriedson reported that he is organizing a forum for Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> in the old gymnasium to encourage youth to use their voice in the decision-making process.

Chief Terry Porter pointed out that the youth vote had a "big influence" on the Bonaparte election results. He talked about the "power of youth" today and noted, "If you ignore them, you are out on your ear."

Councillor Fred Fortier added, "We are honoured to have the youth at the table. They have the ability to teach us."

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**Jurisdiction**

• **Fisheries and Wildlife**

Upper Columbia Aquatic Management Partnership (UCAMP)

- Technical Working Group: Sexqéltkemoc (Lakes Division) and Simpcw First Nation are each appointed a delegate. An alternate seat goes to the Secwepemc Fisheries Commission.
  
- Political Working Group: One delegate to each of Sexqéltkemoc (Lakes Division) and Simpcw First Nation. An alternate seat goes to the SNTC.
  
- UCAMP representatives will submit a monthly report to the Council of Chiefs.

Canadian Columbia River Forum (CCRF)

- Sunny LeBourdais (Lakes Division) was appointed to the CCRF table.

• **Central Interior Partners in Aboriginal Human Resource Development**

Service Canada is late in issuing third quarter payments to CIPAHRD.

The chiefs authorized the SNTC Finance Department to advance a bridge loan to CIPAHRD agencies so that they can maintain their operations and services provided. This money is to be immediately repaid upon disbursement of Service Canada funds.

**In attendance**

- Tribal Chairman Wayne Christian, Chief Paul Sam, Chief Judy Wilson, Chief Terry Porter, Chief Keith Matthew, Chief Rick Deneault.
  
- Councillor Marion Lee, Councillor Fred Fortier, Councillor Diane Jules
  
- SNTC: Bonnie Leonard, Acting Tribal Director; Veronica Leonard, Executive Assistant; Walter Quinlan, Communications Coordinator
  
- Elder J.D. Billy (who said the Closing Prayer)
  
- Youth: Reanna Leonard, Josh Gottfriedson