

## **SNTC Chiefs' Meeting Updates July 2009**

*The first Wednesday of each month marks the coming together of the chiefs of the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC) to voice their concerns and ideas, setbacks and successes, their community's needs and wants.*

Following the ceremonial signing of a protocol agreement between the Adams Lake Indian Band, Neskonlith Indian Band and Splantsin (the Lakes Division) at Sicamous on Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, the chiefs of the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council reconvened while traditional festivities took place outside.

Of the first topics discussed were negotiations with BC Hydro. Several SNTC communities are currently engaged in discussions and negotiations with BC Hydro, and updates were given to the council starting off the meeting.

A plan for restructuring the SNTC organization has received approval to move forward. An implementation plan will be presented to the chiefs come September this year.

A newly developed donations policy was presented to and adopted by the council of chiefs. This policy will set a generous limit on donations made by the council in order to maximize budget dollars, and contribution to important causes and organizations.

The SNTC summer students were invited to make a presentation on the work they have so far completed with regards to the development of the SNTC youth council. The program is looking for Secwepemc youth who have a voice and wish to be heard on behalf of their communities, and who want to make a positive contribution to the development of their own youth council.

The Assembly of First Nations national chief elections will be taking place July 1<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup> in Calgary. Discussions surrounding this topic resulted in the agreement that candidates should be invited to speak to the council of chiefs in order to present their ideas, concerns and mandates. Furthermore, it was agreed that the chiefs support Chief Shane Gottfriedson's and wish him the best in his campaign for regional chief.

A motion was carried in support of the SNTC staff working to determine how to develop a non-timber values resources policy or framework, as well as in support of the research of government and non-government strategies for enhancing or protecting the non-timber value resources in the territory.

Furthermore, a motion was carried in support of the Kamloops Archeological Overview Assessment (AOA) process steering committee continued lead on the expedited small scale salvage program.

The agenda for the Annual Secwepemc Gathering has been finalized, and has been posted on the SNTC website.

In attendance were Chiefs Felix Arnouse, Wayne Christian, Rick Deneault, Shane Gottfriedson, Michael LeBourdais, Nelson Leon, Keith Matthew, Terry Porter and Judy Wilson as well as counselors, and a number of SNTC staff members.