

“If You Only Look At What Is, You May Never Attain What Could Be”

NWTT Economic Strategy Initiative
“Creating Partnerships to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality”
Western Forum: Howard Johnson Highliner Inn, Pr. Rupert, BC
June 2, 3 & 4, 2004

A Special Thank you to our Western Forum Sponsors for helping us make this possible!



Western Economic
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FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT



HAWKAIR 

Celebrating ten years in aviation in 2004

* Sandspit * Prince Rupert * Terrace-Kitimat * Prince George * Dawson Creek * Grande Prairie *

Western Forum Summary:

Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations, in partnership with Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management, North Central Municipal Association and Community Futures Development Corporation, hosted the first of our two consecutive “Creating Partnership to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality” at the Howard Johnson Highliner Inn, in Prince Rupert, BC on June 2, 3 & 4, 2004.

According to the feedback provided by the participants, we believe we have met our objectives in providing our constituency with a forum to address the following objectives:

The Creating Partnerships Forums will be a large step in building trust and another step in building a renewed relationship between First Nations and Non-First Nations based on mutual recognition, mutual respect, sharing and mutual responsibility. It is envisioned that there will be an increased understanding of the realities of treaties, economic opportunities in the region and the development of a shared responsibility for overcoming those barriers to economic growth in the North. Most of all it is envisioned this will be a key first step in developing structural partnerships that will allow First

Nations communities to work along with other communities, and business in the region on the path to economic growth.

In total our Western Forum included 23 Guest Speakers:

NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC
Dr. Stephen Ameyaw	Research Associate-CED Program	Simon Fraser University/Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	Community Economic Development in Aboriginal Communities
Mr. Maynard Angus	General Manager	Community Futures Development Corporation (Pr. Rupert, BC)	Panel Moderator/CFDC Representative
Chief Jerry Asp	Chief	Tahltan Nation	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Brian Battison	President & CEO	Mining Association of BC	Economic Opportunities in our Region: BC Mining
Honorable Pat Bell	Minister of State for Mining	Pr. George North	Economic Opportunities in our Region: Mining Opportunities in BC
Mr. Craig Caruso	Councilor	North Central Municipal Association	Forum Host
Mr. Harley Chingee	Chief	McLeod Lake First Nations	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Stan Dueck	President	Kayah Wood Products	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Ms. Lucy Gagnon	Band Manager	Moricetown First Nations	
Dr. Joe Gosnell	President	Nisga’a Lisims Government	Forum Keynote Address
MLA Roger Harris	Skeena MLA	BC Government	Opening Welcome
Mr. Lawrence “Buddy” Helin	Elder	Lak Kw’alaams First Nations	Welcome to Traditional Territory
Mrs. Marietta Helin	Elder	Lak Kw’alaams First Nations	Opening Prayer
Mr. Robert Hill	President	Tsimshian Tribal Council	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Marc Imus	Inter Agency Management Committee Manager	Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management	Forum Host
Mr. Clarence (Manny) Jules	First Nations Fiscal Institutions Act Spokesperson	Indian Taxation Advisory Board (Kamloops, BC)	Forum Guest Speaker-Day 2 “First Nations Economic Development/Participation & the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical

			Management Act”
Mr. Matthew Lucas	Chairperson	Ma M o o k Development Corporation (Ucluelet, BC)	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Don Manson	Economic Development Vision and Strategy Project	University of Northern British Columbia (Pr. George, BC)	UNBC Northern BC Economic Vision and Strategy Project
Mr. Keith Matthew	Consultant	Indian Taxation Advisory Board (Kamloops, BC)	Forum Guest Speaker-Day 2 “First Nations Economic Development/Participation & the First Nations Fiscal and Statistical Management Act”
Chief Nathan Matthew	Chief/Chairman	North Thompson Indian Band/Shuswap Nation Tribal Council	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Mr. Greg Meredith	Community Economic Development Services	Community Futures Development Corporation - Nadina	Economic Opportunities in our Region: Tourism Opportunities in Northwestern BC
Chief Sophie Pierre	Chief	Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council	Forum Keynote Address (Dinner Session) KKTC Successful Ventures
Mayor Herb Pond	Mayor	Prince Rupert City Council	Opening Welcome
Chief Leonard Thomas	Chief	Nak’azdli First Nations	“Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Gerald Wesley	Co Chair	Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations	Forum Host/Moderator
Chief Steve Wilson	Chief	Kitamaat Village Council	“Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation
Dr. Kenneth Whyte	Economic Strategy Initiative Project Director	Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations	Economic Strategy Initiative Update

Day 1: June 2, 2004

Summary 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm:

Speaker: Gerald D Wesley

-Welcome on behalf of host and organizers (NWTT/NCMA/MSRM/CFDC)

- Overview of partnership and alliances created between NWTT with NCMA (Protocol Agreement), MSRM and CFDC to work on common issues
- Objective of the forum is twofold, to begin process of networking between First Nations communities and non First Nations communities; and to create the necessary economic partnerships that our children and future generations can partake and mutually benefit from; our northern economy needs to be revitalized; for this region to prosper, we require more partnerships and ability to work on our common issues
- Wish all participants a productive and enjoyable three days

Day 2: June 3, 2004

Summary 8:30 am – 8:30 pm

Welcome: Opening Prayer- Lawrence “Buddy” Helin
 Welcome to Traditional Territory -Lawrence Helin
 Welcome from NWTT Co-Chair-Gerald Wesley
 Welcome from NCMA – Craig Caruso
 Welcome from Mayor Herb Pond
 Local MLA’s: Roger Harris (Skeena MLA)

Keynote Address: Dr. Joseph Gosnell Sr. -Nisga'a Lisims Government:
 “Working Together We Can Make Economic Success a Reality”

Northern BC Research & Development Initiatives:
 UNBC Northern BC Economic Development Vision and Strategy
 Project-Don Manson
 NWTT Economic Initiative Project- Dr. Kenneth Whyte

Panel Presentations:
 “Economic Opportunities in our Region”
(Moderator: Marc Imus, NCMA)
 CFDC Tourism-Greg Meredith
 BC Mining Association-Brian Battison
 Minister of State for Mining-Honorable Pat Bell
 Non Forest Product Harvesting-Ma Mook Development Corporation-
 Matthew Lucas

Guest Speaker: Clarence (Manny) Jules, Indian Taxation Advisory Board
 “First Nations Economic Development/Participation & the First Nations
 Fiscal and Statistical Management Act”

Panel Presentation:
 “Learning from Others Sharing Success Stories”
(Moderator: Gerald Wesley, NWTT)
 Chief Harley Chingee-McLeod Lake First Nations
 Chief Nathan Matthew-North Thompson Indian Band
 Matthew Lucas-Ma Mook Development Corporation
 Chief Leonard Thomas-Nak'azdli First Nations

Panel Presentation:

“Local Success Stories”

(Moderator: Maynard Angus, CFDC)

Lucy Gagnon-Moricetown First Nations & Stan Dueck - Kayah Wood
Chief Steve Wilson-Kitamaat Village Council
Chief Jerry Asp-Tahltan First Nations
President Robert Hill – Tsimshian Tribal Council

Evening Dinner
Keynote Address: Welcome and Performance by Tsimshian Dance Croup
Chief Sophie Pierre Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council

Overview of ten year process to develop the St. Eugene Mission Resort; a 4.5 star resort, hotel, casino, golf course, interpretive center, aquatic, recreation and fitness complex. “This resort created 250-plus new jobs and the resort now makes us the third largest private employer in the region,” Pierre says. “Our project is creating new revenues for our communities and the economies of our neighbors. It will strengthen the BC Rockies as an international tourist destination.” The resort is designed with a Ktunaxa cultural theme, developed with the help of elder Mary Paul.

Day 3: June 4, 2004

Summary 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

Opening
Welcome/RECAP Prayer Marietta Helin (Lax Kw’alaams First Nations)
Welcome and RECAP: Marc Imus (MSRM)
Gerald Wesley –Overview of Days 1 & 2

Guest Speaker: Stephen Ameyaw-Simon Fraser University: Community Economic Development Program (SFU/NVIT)

Group Sharing: What Have We Learned?

Quotes from Participants:

- Marilyn Davies (Terrace City Council)
“Pleased to be here and take part and witness this initiative; has been one of the most valuable experiences in Economic Development Initiatives in this region”
- Elmer Derrick (NWTT Board Member)
Pleased to see representation from NCMA; Provided background on NWTT’s economic strategy initiative, lobbying the Government to recognize the importance of First Nations involvement and control over this initiative; Commend the efforts; we are taking steps forward, a more collective approach to gain control of our own destiny
- Don Manson (UNBC Economic Development Study)
The studies and these forums are a great start; the interchanging of ideas and findings with NWTT; Require more participation from the ;Federal Government and private industry’; We all need to get together and discuss common issues; the Federal government needs to be at the table; We all know what divides us, but we also know

what brings us together; Common issues/causes can be addressed by bringing people together (First Nations bands and local municipalities); Next steps are to formalize how we get people together

- Steve Korpi (President, Rainforest Holdings Ltd.)

Have worked in the northwest for last 20+ years; Younger people in this room and region, should be thankful for what people like Buddy, Elmer and Mr. Parnell have accomplished for you; Population base is approximately 100, 000 people spread over a region the size of Texas; There is a lot of diversity in this region, but also a lot of character; In reference to Oil and Gas industry; I acknowledge and respect Buddy's concerns; There are many potential Oil Reserves in Northern BC; For First Nations people, the land has provided something that can be done in a different way; This could create different problems, or better problems such as 'surpluses'; Research or use of this has to be done in way that benefits all of northern BC; Commend NWTT for this get together and the opportunities to advance on some of these issues; With the leadership represented in this room- you are in capable hands to move forward; We are involved in global economy –we have the resources and the potential, with world class supplies and services

- Marc Imus (Interagency Management Committee Manager, Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management)

Unfortunate that there is not more provincial government representatives here; Was glad to see the MLA's present on Day 2; Committed to getting more people to the Eastern Prince George Forum; These joint forums recognize and affirms the value of working together; Nathan Matthews presentation was an example of First Nations and private industry working together; MSRM assists in helping the North Thompson Indian Band, Caribou Management and Private Industry in sorting out the issues to find a balance; There is definite strength in numbers (i.e. band and industry); Creating of partnerships has definitely helped in demonstrating this strength in numbers (i.e. Sophie Pierre presentation)

Delegate List Below: