

“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”**  
**Eastern Forum: Prince George Civic Center, Pr. George, BC**  
**June 16, 17 & 18, 2004**

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



Western Economic  
Diversification Canada

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FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT



***Eastern Forum Summary:***

Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations, in partnership with Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management, North Central Municipal Association and Community Futures Development Corporation, hosted our Eastern Forum “Creating Partnership to Make Economic Opportunities in our Region a Reality” at the Pr. George Civic Center on June 16, 17, & 18, 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 Eastern Forum included 20 Guest Speakers:

| NAME               | TITLE  | ORGANIZATION  | TOPIC  |
|--------------------|--|---|--|
| Dr. Stephen Ameyaw | Research Associate-CED Program                   | Simon Fraser University/Nicola Valley Institute of Technology | Community Economic Development   |
| Mr. Brian Battison | President & CEO                                  | Mining Association of BC                                      | Economic Opportunities in our Region: BC Mining                                |
| Mr. Trent Blind    | Chief Financial Officer                          | Siksika Resource Developments Ltd.                            | “Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories” Panel Presentation              |
| Mr. Harley Chingee | Chief Councilor                                  | McLeod Lake First Nations                                     | “Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation                                     |
| Mr. Paul Blom      | Consultant                                       | Carrier Sekani Tribal Council                                 | Economic Opportunities in our Region: BC Forestry Sector                       |
| Mr. Kevin Brown    | Master of Ceremonies/Forum Moderator             | North Central Municipal Association                           | MC/Forum Moderator   |
| Dr. Joe Gosnell    | President  | Nisga'a Lisims Government                                     | Forum Keynote Address  |
| Mr. Marc Imus      | Inter Agency Management Committee Manager        | Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management                   | Forum Host   |
| Mr. Lowell Johnson | Consultant                                       | Moricetown First Nations & Kayah Wood Products                | “Local Success Stories” Panel Presentation                                     |
| Mr. Matthew Lucas  | Chairperson                                      | Ma Mook 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. Greg Meredith  | Community Economic Development                   | Community Futures Development                                 | Economic Opportunities in our Region: Tourism Opportunities in Northwestern BC |

|                      |   |                                 |   |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
|                      | Services                                      | Corporation -<br>Nadina         |   |
| Mr. Jim Sproul       | Executive Director                            | Pine Beetle Task Force          | Economic Opportunities in our Region: Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development |
| Mr. Justa Monk       | Co Chair East                                 | Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations | Forum Host/Welcoming Address  |
| Mr. Barry Seymour    | Chief   | Lheidli T'enneh First Nations   | "Local Success Stories" Panel Presentation  |
| Mr. John Swaan       | President & CEO                               | Pellet Flame Inc                | Economic Opportunities in our Region: Pellet Flame Inc.                                   |
| Chief Leonard Thomas | Chief Councilor                               | Nak'azdli First Nations         | "Local Success Stories" Panel Presentation  |
| Chief Steve Wilson   | Chief Councilor                               | Kitamaat Village Council        | "Learning From Others Sharing Success Stories" Panel Presentation                         |
| Dr. Kenneth Whyte    | Economic Strategy Initiative Project Director | Northwest Tribal Treaty Nations | Economic Strategy Initiative Update   |
| Mr. Don Zurowski     | General Manager                               | CFDC Fraser Fort George         | Forum Host  |

**Day 1: June 16, 2004**

***Summary 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm:***

Speakers: Justa Monk (Co Chair East NWTT) & Stu Christiansen (NCMA Representative)

- 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 to create the necessary partnerships and future economies that our children can benefit from. Status quo or separate economies will not suffice; it is essential that we begin to work together to achieve our common goals.

**Day 2: June 17, 2004**

***Summary 8:30 am – 4:30 pm***

Welcome: Welcome to Traditional Territory –Barry Seymour  
Welcome from NWTT Co-Chair-Justa Monk  
Welcome from NCMA – Stu Christiansen  
Welcome from CFDC-Don Zurowski

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

Panel Presentations: "Economic Opportunities in the Region"

*(Moderator – Don Zurowski, CFDC)*  
CFDC Tourism-Greg Meredith  
BC Mining Association-Brian Battison  
Forestry Sector- Paul Blom (CSTC Consultant)  
Mountain Beetle Task Force-Jim Sproul  
Bio-Energy, Pellet Flame Inc-John Swaan

Panel Presentations: “Local Success Stories”

*(Moderator – Marc Imus, MSRM)*  
Chief Harley Chingee-McLeod Lake First Nations  
Lowell Johnson -Moricetown First Nations & Kayah Wood  
Chief Leonard Thomas-Nak'azdli First Nations  
Chief Barry Seymour- Lheidli T'enneh First Nations

Panel Presentations: “Learning from Others Sharing Success Stories”

*(Moderator – Dr. Kenneth Whyte, NWTT)*  
Matthew Lucas – Iisaak Forest Resources/Ma Mook Development  
Chief Steve Wilson-Kitamaat Village Council  
Trent Blind - Siksika Resource Development

### **Day 3: June 18, 2004**

***Summary 8:30 am – 1:30 pm***

Opening                      Justa Monk (NWTT Co Chair East)  
Welcome/RECAP          Welcome and RECAP: Marc Imus (MSRM)  
   Don Zurowski (CFDC)

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

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

Group Sharing:            What Have We Learned?

Quotes from Participants:

- “Initiating Change requires courage” –Dr. Joe Gosnell, President Nisga’a Lisims Government
- “(Require) open and honest sharing of information” – Matthew Lucas, Ma Mook Development Corporation
- “***It’s important to separate the business from the politics***”  
–Harley Chingee, Chief of McLeod Lake First Nations/Trent Blind, CFO Siksika Resource Management Ltd./Barry Seymour, Chief of Lheidli T’enneh First Nations/Leonard Thomas, Chief of Nak’azdli First Nations

- “There are immense opportunities that require an open mind and a willingness to take chances” Greg Meredith, CFDC Nadina/Brian Battison, BC Mining Corporation
- “Accountability to your community and to partners is critical” Trent Blind, Siksika Resource Development Ltd
- “Accountability is necessary to attract partners and potential investors” Chief Steve Wilson, Kitamaat Village Council
- “We need stability of leadership” Chief Barry Seymour, Lheidli T’enneh First Nations
- “We need to get on with the job, this has been studied to death”