



Community Report

Building a robust fishery for all, forever.

November 30, 2015

Seeking a Mandate to Negotiate.



Jack Smith from Halalt First Nation, with FSMC Main Table member Larry George (Cowichan Tribes).

At the FSMC Assembly held on November 19th, Member Delegates passed, by consensus, a Special Resolution approving **Formal Mandate Request to Negotiate #1.**

The purpose of this Formal Mandate Request, as prepared the FSMC Main Table and Lead Negotiator Brenda Gaertner, is to guide FSMC's negotiations with DFO for joint management of Fraser salmon. "All we're asking for now is the mandate to

negotiate," said Brenda Gaertner. "We're not seeking approval of an agreement."

Member Delegates are now asking Chief and Councils of FSMC Signatory Nations to consider this request. "We're accountable to the Rights Holders," said Thomas Alexis. "They're the ones that send us to the table."

This is an important step towards the goal of beginning negotiations with DFO in March, 2016.



Member Delegates Carl Frederick (Lheidli T'enneh) and Chief Stuart Alec (Nazko).

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FSMC First Nations

Newest members Saik'uz and Shxw'owhamel join:
Burns Lake, Canim Lake, Canoe Creek, Esketemc, Lhtako Dene, Lheidli T'enneh, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Nazko, Soda Creek, Stelat'en, Tl'azt'en, Wet'suwet'en, Williams Lake, Yekooche, Adams Lake, Bonaparte, Coldwater, Cook's Ferry, High Bar, Little Shuswap, Neskonalith, Nicomen, Nooaitch, Okanagan IB, Osoyoos, Penticton, Seton Lake, Shackan, Shuswap IB, Simpcw, Siska, Sketchestn, Splatsin, Tk'emlups, T'it'qet, Upper Nicola, Westbank, Whispering Pines/Clinton, Chawathil, Katzie, Kwantlen, Kwaw Kwaw Apilt, Seabird Island, Shxwa:y Village, Sumas, Skawahlook, Skowkale, Soowahlie, Tsawwassen, Tzeachten, Yale, Campbell River, Cape Mudge, Cowichan Tribes, Ditidaht, Ehattesaht Chinehkint, Lyackson, 'Namgis, Halalt, Nuchatluht, Penelakut.



Questions and Answers

Join us

What is purpose of the FSMC?

- The purpose of the FSMC is to provide a formal organization for First Nations to make collective decisions for the negotiation and implementation of a Fraser salmon management agreement with DFO.

What are the benefits of the FSMC?

- Protect First Nations interests related to Fraser salmon.
- Strengthen and support each other's rights and responsibilities pertaining to Fraser salmon.

Are our rights protected?

- Yes. Part 2 at 2.3 of the FSMC By-laws is a "non-derogation of rights" clause. It was reviewed and approved by the independent legal counsel of Ratcliff & Co. LLP.

Will joining the FSMC impact Treaty or court related negotiations?

- Joining FSMC doesn't abrogate or derogate your rights. As negotiations with DFO proceed, each Signatory Nation will have to assess any potential impacts on their own unique circumstances.



FSMC Community Outreach,
contact Pat Matthew:
Tel.: 778.471.8224
pmatthew@shuswapnation.org



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