



## SGS Chair Report - Kúkwpi7 Darrell Bob



**S**GS is currently working on developing a higher level of communications with St'át'imc Chiefs Council (SCC) in relation to creating good governance for the Nation as stated in previous reports. Communications with communities and membership is integral to a successful organization. We have the talent within our Nation to do this work. As a Chair, it is a matter of rolling up our sleeves and do the work to become a more successful organization to serve the Nation. We are targeting November 20, 2014 as the timeframe to complete the work necessary to ensure the structure is in place to operate more efficiently and effectively.

The Chiefs supported the motion for SGS and SCC Managers to work together to compile all of the studies and reports to develop a competent and sustainable structure. Completing this work will help SGS operate more effectively by clarifying responsibilities. But more importantly, it will also include a system based on the principles of unity, structure and governance that will integrate the standards of efficiency, competency and sustainability. We are looking forward to completing this important work.

**“We have the talent within our Nation to do this work.”**

A reminder of the SCC General Meeting on October 27, 2014 at the P'egp'ig'lha Community Centre, 59 Rancheree Drive, Lillooet. It will start with dinner at 5 p.m.

We hope to see you at this year's event.

## St'at'imc Constitution Initiative

### Steps towards a New Story

*“Across Indian Country, a growing number of Native nations are working hard to reclaim control over their own affairs, create vibrant economies, revitalize their cultures and languages, and rebuild healthy societies -- all on their own terms.” Dr. Stephen Cornell, Lecturer, Native Nations Institute*

St'at'imc leadership have embarked on a multi-year constitution development project to capture and enrich St'at'imc principles and values to strengthen and empower their inherent right and responsibility to self-rule. Nxe kmelh kálha múta<sup>7</sup> nt'áqmanlh kálha (Our Laws and Way of Life).

A St'at'imc constitution is one expression of self-rule and self-determination. A constitution is the collective determination of what the people say is the “over all architecture” of how St'at'imc will govern themselves.

It expresses what St'at'imc values, principles are and what is important in preserving and enhancing the nation's sovereignty.

Last year, a small group of representatives were appointed by their respective communities to lay the foundation for the St'at'imc constitution initiative.

It was a successful first year. With the strong leadership support of the St'at'imc Chiefs, the SCC Chair, the Project Manager and the Constitution Team the deliverables of the first year's project were met, and expectations were exceeded.

#### Accomplishments of the Constitution Initiative - Year 1

- Development of a Constitution Team competency matrix to guide community selection of team members.
- Development of a Constitution Team Terms of Reference to guide the team's work.
- Development of a Constitution framework that helps identify future discussion points and areas of research.
- Draft of Nation constitution values.
- Development of a Community Engagement Strategy to ensure ongoing and meaningful involvement of ucwalmicw and communities.
- Training of Constitution team members in the areas of constitution development, facilitation and planning, community engagement & strategy development, and project monitoring & reporting.
- Community meetings with Elders to identify values, traditional governance practices, traditional decision-making processes,

and to determine how traditional governance can be applied in today's context.

Highlights for this year's work is building upon the above noted accomplishments and have planned team training workshops, team strategy sessions and community consultation sessions.

Workshops include:

- Constitution Development Best Practices and Research Approaches
- St'at'imc Constitution Research Inquiry Methods and Tools
- Conducting St'at'imc Constitution Research, Analysis and Reporting

Further, the work plan will focus on looking at the following issues

- Nation level decision-making, rights, responsibilities, powers and limits
- External Nation relationships
- Peacekeeping and enforcement
- Citizenship
- The relationship of community responsibilities, rights and powers to the collective - St'at'imc government.

The team has expanded from 6 St'at'imc representatives to 11 this year. The following people offer an abundance of expertise, wisdom and perspective.

Stacey Austinson, SCC Government Advisor  
 Randell Charlie, Xa'xtsa  
 Chief Lucinda Phillips, Lil'wat  
 Kukwpi<sup>7</sup> Perry Redan, Sekw'el'was  
 Chief Michelle Edwards, Sekw'el'was  
 Jolenne Redan, Sekw'el'was  
 Chief Larry Casper, Tsal'alh  
 Ida Mary Peter, Tsal'alh  
 Issac Adolph, Xaxli'p  
 Chief Shelley Leech, T'it'q'et  
 Bradley Jack, Xwisten

The St'at'imc Constitution Initiative blog:  
<http://statimc-constitution.posthaven.com>

## Future Generations Profile



**C**ory Larochelle is working with SGS as a fisheries and environmental technician. Cory is a T't'q'et member and his paternal Grandmother and Grandfather are Jane and Darwin Larochelle. His maternal Grandparents are Claire and Willie Moffat. Cory became involved with SGS after completing the environmental technical training in 2011. He has also completed training in Swift water, first aid, and Excel spreadsheets. Cory loves the outdoors, fishing and works in amazing places that many people do not get to see. Cory explained working with SGS/SER has created a better life and future because he enjoys his job and wants to go further in his fisheries career.

## Capacity Building

**Denise Antoine** works as the Wildlife & Lands Assistant in the Environment Department of SGS. Denise was raised by her grandparents Chris and Matilda Bob and her mother in Xaxl'ip. Her father is from the Frog (Lusilyoo) Clan, Nakazdli Nation from Fort St. James. Fort St. James is at Stuart Lake where the Early Stuart Run goes. Denise became involved with SGS after she worked in forestry, environment and with other First Nations. She is currently working on the Grizzly Bear Recovery

Project, St'at'imc & SLRD Proposed Agriculture Plan, and Bear Safety Education Program. Denise has completed various certifications such as the Aboriginal Environmental Assessment Certification, Fisheries Certificate, Supervisor Electrofishing Certificate, and Forestry Certificate



and also has a business administration background. Recently, Denise completed the Wildsafe BC Training for wildlife conflict training to do presentations and Bear Aware Safety. Denise loves hiking and working in the outdoors. She has a passion researching ways to preserve our wild places and increase the health of the land, water,

air and plants. She especially enjoys learning about Ethnobotany, natural medicines, Grizzly Bears and climate change impacts on plants and water. Denise's goal includes continuing with her Natural Resource courses to become a Professional Registered Natural Resource worker. Denise adds, "This job is my dream and I love working with my community." Her life goal was always to look after the land, animals, water and air - working SGS allows her the opportunity to do this.

**Chester Alec** is working with SGS as a Heritage Field Technician. Chester's parents are Herman and Frances Alec. His maternal Grandparents are Victor and Cora Adolph and his paternal Grandparents are Stanley and Edna Aleck. While the hydro negotiations were in progress, Chester kept informed and seen the potential job opportunities. The different training he has completed over the years include: PSSP/WPP, Environmental Technician, Electro Fishing, GIS Introduction, GPS/Trimble Training, First Aid/ Transportation, METH 8 (helicopter) Heli Exit SAFE 104 & 502, Pleasure Craft, MED A3, Swift water rescue training, RISC, and Natural Resources Technician training. Chester enjoys working with SGS because he likes the work and team environment, as well as the ability to work close to home.



Chester adds he is enthused to be given the opportunity to work in his role with SGS as a Heritage Field Technician.

## Elders Plants & You Project



PHOTO: Left to right, Charlie Brown, Maureen Antoine

by Sue Senger, PHd, RPBio, PAg., SGS Environment Lead.  
Denise Antoine, Wildlife & Lands Assistant  
Darwyn John, Wildlife & Lands Assistant

**Purpose:** to get Elders out on the land to talk about plants with community members and youth.

Funding came from the Northern St'át'ım Health Hub, Health Authority and St'át'ım Government Services.

### July 30 2014 Field Trip.

Northern St'át'ım Elders, Elder assistants & Community Members met at #10 Scotchman Road Lillooet BC on July 30 2014 and did a day field trip to Mission Mountain, Tsalalth. For safety reasons we got a list of Attendees, medications, allergies and medical conditions; before we left. Diabetic Morning Snacks, coffee, juice & water available. A Bear Safety Talk was done. There was a catered bag lunch that was offered. Elders walked around a gave a talk about the plants and uses.

### September 29 2014

Northern St'át'ım Elders, Elder assistants & Community Members met at #10 Scotchman Road Lillooet BC on Sept 29 2014 and continued on to Xaxli'p Administration Office. From there the Elders did a day field trip to talk about the plants at the south end of Kwotlenemo Lake (1st Lake). Lunch was catered at Xaxli'p Hall.

### September 30 2014

Northern St'át'ım Elders, Elder assistants & Community Members met at #10 Scotchman Road Lillooet BC on Sept 30 2014 and continued on to Split Rock Nursery at Sekwelwas. Chief Michelle Edwards gave a welcoming speech and the Sekwelwas Singers Drummed a welcoming song. The Elders went on a tour

of the Spawning Channel and Split Rock Native Plant Nursery. St'át'ım plant uses were talked about. Lunch was catered.

There is a plan to do another Elder Field Trip in June up to the Yalakolm.

## Jeremy Higham Relationship Lead, Aboriginal Relations

Jeremy has 12 years of experience working with BC First Nations, 8 of which with BC Hydro Aboriginal Relations and Properties.



His principal role in Aboriginal Relations has been the Northwest Transmission Line Aboriginal Lead directing consultation, assisting negotiations, and implementing impact benefit agreements on a critical project that will open up BC's Northwest to resource and economic development. Jeremy also managed aboriginal issues on several challenging files in

the North West including Hagwilget ancestor re-internment, the Gitsegukla distribution line relocation, and Nisga'a Villages power reliability.

In Properties, Jeremy negotiated transmission and distribution property rights with First Nations and represented BC Hydro at Treaty Tables.

Prior to BC Hydro, Jeremy worked with Land Code First Nations to transfer Indian Reserve lands and resources under the First Nations Land Management Act while with Aboriginal Affairs Canada. He has also served as a Crown Land Officer, managing tenures and Crown consultation, and developing policy for the Province of BC. Jeremy also developed Great Lakes pollution reduction strategies for the Canadian and American governments with the International Joint Commission.

Jeremy is excited to take on this new role and is looking forward to working with St'át'ım and the many BC Hydro departments involved in the implementation of this landmark settlement agreement. Jeremy began his role earlier in July by attending the St'át'ım Agreement Steering Committee meeting. He has begun working with several of the communities with St'át'ım Relations Manager, Janice Whitney, and they are looking forward to visiting all the communities over the next few months.

## Announcement

Gary Forsythe, IVL Contracting Ltd will be receiving Business of the Year, Outstanding Achievement Award for the 2014 BC Aboriginal Business Awards.

Gary will receive his award at a Gala Ceremony on October 15, 2014 at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Congratulations Gary!

## Meeting Dates

- **SGS Board of Directors & Chief and Council Meeting** - October 27, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Location to be determined)
- **SGS Board Meeting** - November 24, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at SGS office. 10 Scotchman Road, Lillooet, BC.
- **St'át'imc Chiefs Council (SCC) Meeting**- November 5, 2014
- **Steering Committee Meeting** - date to be determined
- **St'át'imc Chiefs Council (SCC) General Meeting** - October 27, 2014. Dinner starts at 5:00 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. Location: P'egp'ig'lha Community Centre 59 Rancheree Drive, Lillooet, BC
- **St'át'imc Education and Training Committee (SETAC) Meeting** - November 26, 2014 at Cayoose Band Office.

## SGS & BC Hydro Joint Communications Update

- **N'Quatqua** – October 25, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in Community Hall
- **T'it'q'et** – November 7, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in Chief and Council Chambers
- **Tsal'alh** – November 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Elders Complex
- **Xa'xtsa** – Tentative December 13, 2014 in Mission

## SGS New Address

SGS new office location is 10 Scotchman Road, Lillooet BC V0K 1V0 (the former T'it'q'et band office).

**Phone:** (250) 256 0425 **Fax:** (250) 256 - 0445