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Co-published by the First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Municipalities, C2CConnect features First Nations and local governments working together.

C2C connect

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» Agreement Safeguards Drinking Water on Sunshine Coast

Chapman Creek on the Sunshine Coast

SECHELT > A landmark agreement to safeguard drinking water and protect Chapman Creek and Gray Creek has been signed by the Sechelt Indian Band and the Sunshine Coast Regional District.



Under the agreement, the SIB and SCRCD will jointly manage the watersheds.

The watersheds are situated within both the SIB's territory and the SCRCD's potable water service authority. While the provincial government still has ultimate authority over allowing or disallowing development

projects in the watersheds, both the SIB and SCRCD have taken a remarkable first step in mutual watershed management.

"This is a show of unity," said SIB Chief Stan Dixon at a recent SCRCD infrastructure services committee meeting.

"This is a monumental step

taken by the two communities to make a major commitment to protect the quality of water supply in this region," said SCRCD Chair Ed Steeves.

"We are confident that the provincial government, resource industries and other stakeholders in the region will respect the

community's wishes and support the initiatives embodied in this agreement," Steeves said.

No similar accord of this breadth and scope exists between local governments and First Nations throughout the province.

The SCRCD and the SIB have

cont'd on next page



THIS, says Sechelt Chief Stan Dixon, IS A SHOW OF UNITY

Sechelt Water Agreement, cont'd from Page 1

been working on the agreement for at least five years. The agreement stipulates that a committee of three SCR D directors and three band councillors will make recommendations to the SCR D board and band council on how to manage the watershed and on the creation of laws and bylaws.

watershed; and future changes that may be necessary to this agreement.

As spelled out in the Terms of Reference, SIB and SCR D agree to the following:

> the right and authority to approve or disapprove any activity within the water-

shed;
> the right and authority to disallow any activity within the watershed; and
> the power to prosecute offenders of the laws of SIB and the bylaws of the SCR D enacted to give effect to the foregoing, which laws and bylaws shall be enacted in consul-

tation between the two. The document is available on the UBCM website at www.civicnet.bc.ca under Featured Policy Topics/First Nation Relations.

connect : civicnet.bc.ca

Valid for five years, the agreement can be amended or extended by mutual consent. Under the agreement, SCR D and SIB agree to the following:

- > to share responsibility and decision-making applicable to the watersheds;
- > to share the costs, expenses and liabilities arising from shared responsibility and decision-making applicable to the watersheds; and
- > to establish a Joint Watershed Management Advisory Committee that would make recommendations on the management of the watershed; laws and bylaws surrounding the

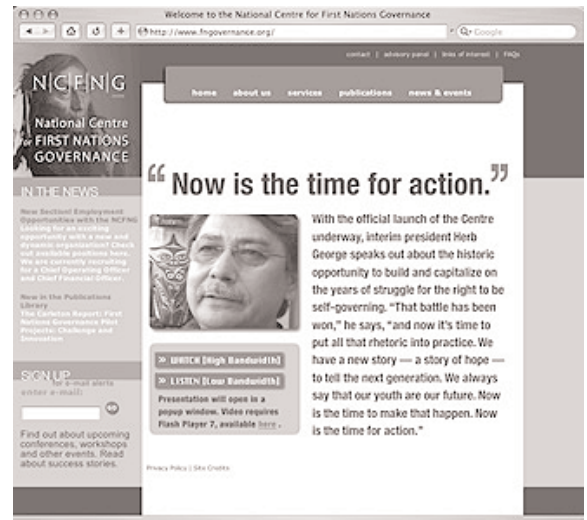
New First Nations Governance Centre Launched

VANCOUVER > A new initiative from within Canada's First Nations community has made its debut across the country and on the Internet.

The National Centre for First Nations Governance will function as a clearinghouse for collecting, classifying and distributing information and assistance to First Nations who want to improve their institutions, the policies that entrench good governance and the lives of their people.

The Centre will also cultivate alliances with research institutions, professional organizations and non-aboriginal business partners. Furthermore, it will analyze new trends in governance and establishing priorities as benchmarks for First Nations.

"We're going online to provide the support, research and information services First Nations require to improve their communities, eliminate poverty and rebuild their economies," says Centre President Satsan (Herb George).



connect : fngovernance.org

Local Governments and In-SHUCK-ch forge Stronger Ties

CHILLIWACK > The governments of Canada and British Columbia announced \$100,000 in funding earlier this year to support a treaty-related project that will build stronger relations between local governments and the In-SHUCK-ch Council.

The funds will help the In-SHUCK-ch to develop a governance model for its communities, post-treaty. The model will be based on the practical governance needs of the In-SHUCK-ch communities. The project will also provide mentoring opportunities for members of the In-SHUCK-ch communities to work directly with local area governments.

"Our leaders' first and last accountability will be to their people, and no longer to a minister of the federal Crown. We'd better be ready," said Eppa (Gerard Peters), Chief Negotiator for the In-SHUCK-ch council.

"We look forward to forging links with all levels of government for the common purpose of creating a new mechanism to allow us to govern ourselves effectively," Eppa said.

In a related development, Fraser Valley Regional District Chief Administrative Officer Gerry Kingston says the two groups signed an important MOU this past

"We look forward to forging links with all levels of government"

- Eppa (Gerard Peters), Chief Negotiator, In-SHUCK-ch council

June," ... to establish a cooperative government-to-government relationship for the purpose of sharing information, improving communications, addressing specific concerns, setting a solid foundation for future planning, and raising awareness and understanding with regard to the In-SHUCK-ch Nation title, rights and responsibilities of the FVRD under the Local Government Act and Community Charter."

Next steps for the FVRD and In-SHUCK-ch Council with respect to developing

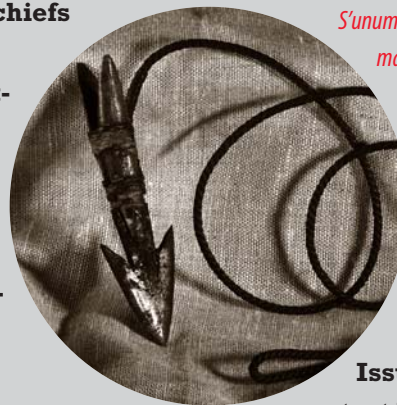
their working relationship include job-shadowing initiatives, as well as further knowledge building around their respective governing structures. The In-SHUCK-ch council represents three First Nations: the Douglas First Nation, the Skatin First Nations and the Samahquam Nation. In-SHUCK-ch communities are located along the Lillooet River from the top of Harrison Lake to south of Mt. Currie, near Pemberton.

**connect : inshuckch.com
: fvrd.bc.ca/FVRD**

>> Hul'qumi'num, Cowichan Valley Regional District and Islands Trust Work to Protect First Nations Heritage Sites

LADYSMITH > Earlier this month the chiefs of the member First Nations of the Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group and elected representatives of the Cowichan Valley Regional District and the Islands Trust signed a Memorandum of Understanding to manage and protect aboriginal heritage sites on southeast Vancouver Island and throughout the southern Gulf Islands.

During a two-day workshop, organized by the B.C. Treaty Negotiations Office and facilitated by former Campbell River mayor Jim Lornie, the political leaders agreed on more efficient and effective ways to undertake planning, permitting and



S'unum is traditionally made of t'hum'unu' (bone) and the rope attached is made of sthulq'ul'shutun (cedar bark). This particular harpoon, made of metal and horn, is from the Puneluxutth (Penelakut) Tribe, was collected in 1912. Photo by Gary Fiegehen, object courtesy of Royal BC Museum 2418, sea lion spear.

communications around the management and protection of these sites.

Issues ncluded the First Nations' need to protect heritage sites within their traditional territory. All parties will continue to work together.

The Gulf Islands are one of Canada's hottest real estate markets today.

**connect : hulquminum.bc.ca
: cvrld.bc.ca
: islandstrust.bc.ca**

Winalagalis Creates Database of Heritage Sites

ALERT BAY > The Winalagalis Treaty Group has now completed its cultural and governance studies, including a \$200,000 treaty-related measure to identify and develop a database of heritage sites and culturally significant artifacts for each of the five WTG bands.

Meanwhile, work on another \$130,000 TRM is now underway. It will allow each of the bands to develop a governance framework that might incorporate both traditional and modern government structures and functions.

WTG represents the Da'naxda'xw/Awaetlala, Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw, Quatsino and Tlatlasikwala bands from Northern Vancouver Island and Knight Inlet.

WTG hopes to work with the Regional District of Mount Waddington and local businesses on a regional study to



Bull Harbour, protected harbour on Hope Island

evaluate economic opportunities that could arise as a result of settling treaties.

The genesis for this project stems from a C2C forum held this past spring. By identifying regional economic opportunities well in advance of a Final Agreement, businesses and local governments will be well positioned to fully participate in the post-treaty economy.

connect : winilagis.org
: alertbay.ca/municipality

C2C connect

C2CConnect is a co-publication of the First Nations Summit and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, both responsible for its content. Your comments and story ideas are critical to our success. Please send them to:

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Snuneymuxw Signs MOU with City of Nanaimo

Snuneymuxw Chief John Wesley and Nanaimo Mayor Gary Korpan recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding acknowledging the mutual respect for the mandates, policies and various jurisdictions of the two governments and recognizing that both face a number of common issues in the areas of planning, servicing and economic development.

The MOU also spells out a commitment to work together to meet mutual objectives.



“Both parties bring much to the table and this joint commitment will allow both communities to move forward together where, in the past, it might not have been possible,” states Chief Wesley.

The Snuneymuxw live on four small reserves on the shores of Nanaimo Harbour and Nanaimo River. Today, the population numbers about 1,300 with 65 per cent of the members living off reserve — in cities such as Nanaimo, Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle.

connect : snuneymuxw.ca
: city.nanaimo.bc.ca