

INFORMATION BULLETIN



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FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

At an All-Chiefs' Assembly in December, 2010, the Chiefs-in-Assembly passed three resolutions-in-principle which endorsed the All-Chiefs' Task Force (ACTF) recommendations, the First Nation Leadership Council Terms of Reference and Accountability Framework, and the Process Document. All three resolutions have now been formally endorsed through resolution by the First Nations Summit (FNS), Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) and the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) at their respective assemblies.

Pursuant to the recommendations made by the ACTF, the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) met in May to develop a strategic plan. Part of this strategic plan involves developing a communications plan between the FNLC, with First Nation organizations and sector councils, with First Nation Working Groups and, most importantly, with our First Nation communities. This strategic plan is in the process of being finalized, and we will be reporting our progress as it develops.

The FNLC continues working with the Provincial Government to establish an engagement model that will allow for regular meetings and communications, in the spirit of the New Relationship.

Missing Women Commission of Inquiry

On September 27, 2010, the Lieutenant Governor in Council issued an Order in Council establishing the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, appointing Wally Oppal, QC, as Commissioner. On May 2, 2011, Commissioner

Oppal granted all applicants for standing either full or limited status and recommended that all participants be provided funding to support their participation in the Inquiry. The Assembly of First Nations (AFN), Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs (UBCIC), First Nations Summit (FNS), Carrier Sekani Tribal Council (CSTC) and the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of B.C. (NCCABC) were each granted limited standing.

On May 19th, the Attorney General announced it would provide funding only to counsel for 10 families of victims and that it would not follow the Commission's recommendation to fund any of the other participants. The Commission held a pre-hearing conference on June 27th to hear directly from participants on how the funding decision will affect their ability to participate and has reserved its decision on next steps. The First Nations organizations have called upon the Province to ensure **all** families that may come forward to participate are funded, and to reverse the Attorney General's decision and fund the Aboriginal Groups to participate in the Inquiry. The First Nations organizations clarified to the Commission that, even with limited standing, they cannot participate without funding.

(For a joint news release from June 29, please see www.bcafn.ca; www.fns.bc.ca; www.ubcic.bc.ca)

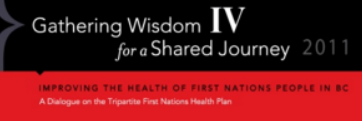
FNLC's Statement on the Final Report of the Davies Commission on the Frank Paul Inquiry

The First Nations Leadership Council is expressing disappointment in the final report of the Frank Paul Inquiry which was publicly released June 22, 2011.



FIRST NATIONS HEALTH COUNCIL UPDATE

MAY 24th-26th, 2011 | SHERATON HOTEL, Richmond, B.C.



Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey IV

On May 24-26, 2011, the Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey IV forum took place, and was attended by 178 Chiefs and designates and over 300 other participants. This year's forum was a historic opportunity for First Nations leadership to: confirm the guidance they have provided over the past three years through over 120 regional and sub-regional caucus meetings and over 150 Health Partnership Workbooks – summarized in a *Consensus Paper – BC First Nations Perspectives on a new Health Governance Arrangement*; make a decision about taking greater control over First Nations health services and helping to transform the provincial system that serves us; and, provide a clear mandate and next steps for health governance moving forward.

The forum included regional caucus sessions to review the Consensus Paper and Resolution, an honouring banquet for those First Nations leaders that brought the work to the place it is today, a keynote address from National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, and Indigenous speakers from Alaska, Hawaii and the Lower

"The families of Frank Paul, First Nations in British Columbia, and the public at large, have waited for the final report of the Davies Commission in the hopes that the Commission would fully explore all perspectives of the tragic circumstances that led to the death of Frank Paul. We are disappointed that based on the final report of the Commission, it is apparent that Commissioner Davies chose to accept the evidence of various Crown counsel when substantial evidence presented by the legal counsel of participating parties strongly suggested that he should be wary of doing so", said Grand Chief Edward John of the First Nations Summit Political Executive. "It remains our belief, founded upon the evidence that charges should have been brought forward in this case. We are disappointed the Commissioner chose not to issue a finding of whether charges should have been laid."

(To download the full release, please visit www.bcafn.ca, www.ubcic.bc.ca, or www.fns.ca)

Implement United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The FNS, UBCIC, and AFN, are all signatories to a recent national statement coordinated by KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives to raise awareness about the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This statement is part of KAIROS' "Roll with the Declaration" campaign in which participants travelled across the country to Parliament Hill:

We, the undersigned Indigenous and Canadian organizations, applaud Canada's November 2010 endorsement of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We agree that it is time to "build on a positive and productive

relationship with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples."

We join with more than 100 legal scholars and constitutional experts who affirmed that the Declaration is "consistent with the Canadian Constitution and Charter and is profoundly important for fulfilling their promise."

We call on the government of Canada to work collaboratively with Indigenous peoples for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration. We call on the federal government to reform laws and policies that fall below the Declaration's standards.

We support Indigenous peoples and groups across Canada who are calling for implementation of the Declaration to protect Indigenous peoples' rights, including rights to lands, territories and resources, livelihoods, health and self-determination.

In the spirit of the treaties and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, we commit ourselves to seeking right relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in every part of Canada; to speaking the truth about historic injustices; and to ensuring that our respective organizations and communities will make right relations a priority.

We endorse the KAIROS national action "Roll with the Declaration," and encourage our membership to:

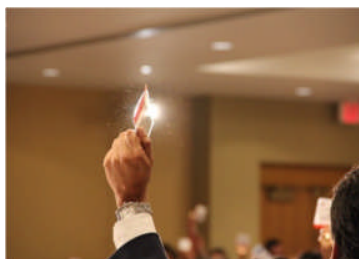
- sign the KAIROS petition to the federal government;
- make banners expressing support for the Declaration;
- and participate in education and action events across the country, including in Ottawa on June 20.

(For a complete list of signatories, please visit www.kairoscanada.org)

48 who shared their perspectives on leadership and health governance.

On the final day of the forum, the Consensus Paper and Resolution were debated; of those leaders in attendance 146 voted in favor, 12 against, and 8 abstained. First Nations' support and approval of the Consensus Paper has set the wheels in motion for the FNHC to move forward in the development and finalization of the documents necessary to develop a new health governance structure, including the legally-binding Framework Agreement and a Health Partnership Accord with federal and provincial governments, and to establish a First Nations Health Authority to design and deliver First Nations health services. All agreements or structures relating to the new First Nations health governance arrangement must be consistent with the 7 directives set out in the Consensus Paper developed by First Nations over the past three years:

- Directive #1: Community-Driven, Nation-Based
- Directive #2: Increase First Nations Decision-Making and Control
- Directive #3: Improve Services (*Consistent with the Principle of Comparability*)
- Directive #4: Foster Meaningful Collaboration and Partnership
- Directive #5: Develop Human and Economic Capacity
- Directive #6: Be Without Prejudice to First Nations Interests
- Directive #7: Function at a High Operational Standard



Through the Resolution, First Nations also directed the FNHC to develop a work plan in consultation with Regional Caucuses for the next steps outlined in the Consensus Paper and provide that to the Regional Caucuses for review by September 1, 2011. Finally, the Resolution calls upon the FNHC to bring First Nations Chiefs, leaders and health professionals back together again in one year's time to consider further political decisions with respect to health governance.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. Please visit our website for more detailed information about Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey IV and other activities of the FNHC (www.fnhc.ca).



FIRST NATIONS
FISHERIES COUNCIL

FIRST NATIONS FISHERIES COUNCIL UPDATE

The FNFC has been busy on a number of fronts over the past couple of months, particularly on strategic planning. In May we had meetings with representatives from both the Leadership Council and DFO to discuss objectives and priorities for the FNFC, which will allow us to build toward a 3 year plan. The FNFC has also been

working to establish a clearly defined relationship with the Leadership Council through a *Relationship Accord*, and will also be working on relationship building with local, regional, and watershed level groups.

On June 7 and 8, the FNFC hosted an Economic Access Community Dialogue Session in Richmond, where delegates urged the FNFC to advocate for an increased share of commercial fisheries for First Nations. The PICFI program, the purpose of which is to transfer commercial access and allocations to First Nations, is scheduled to end on March 31, 2012. At the sessions, First Nations recommended the continuation of the PICFI program for a second 5-year term, with support for economic access, capacity building, joint management, and enhanced accountability.

IHPC and IFMP Processes:

Improvements are needed in regards to First Nations representation at the Tier 3 Integrated Harvest Planning Committee (IHPC), the process of appointing First Nations delegates to the IHPC, how First Nations input into the 29 Integrated Fisheries Management Planning (IFMP) processes is handled by DFO, and the potential for the Tier 3 IHPC process to infringe on Section 35-1 rights. The FNFC met with DFO representatives on June 16th to discuss these issues. The FNFC will be in contact with IHPC delegates to identify First Nation concerns and potential ways to address critical issues of First Nations engagement in the process. The FNFC and DFO have also committed to co-hosting an IFMP workshop in the fall/winter of 2011 as a way to improving the IFMP process for 2012.

Case Law Implementation: First Nations have expressed

dissatisfaction with the lack of implementation of Supreme Court of Canada decisions or consideration to DFO program envelopes. This will be a focus of work planning moving forward.

Pacific Salmon as an Official Symbol of BC:

The Pacific Salmon Foundation and the Fraser Basin Council are working to have wild salmon designated as an official provincial symbol, and contacted the FNFC to seek support from First Nations. Resolutions in support of this initiative were passed by the Chiefs in assembly at the UBCIC, First Nations Summit, and BCAFN.

COSEWIC Assessment of Eulachon:

The coast wide population of eulachon has declined significantly in recent years, which has prompted COSEWIC to assess the Fraser River and South Central units as "endangered", and the Nass and Skeena unit as "threatened". The FNFC has advised DFO that BC First Nations have a keen interest in eulachon, and that DFO should be prepared to undertake extensive consultation with communities on any potential decision to list eulachon under Canada's Species at Risk Act.

The FNFC hosts a bi-weekly update conference call that is open to all First Nations in BC, lists fisheries meeting dates on our Master Calendar on our website, and develops a monthly communiqué. For more information about the FNFC, please visit our website at www.fnfisheriescouncil.ca or email us at info@fnfisheriescouncil.ca



FIRST NATIONS FORESTRY COUNCIL UPDATE

The first nations forestry council (FNFC) has been unable to secure the historic levels of funding during the recent decline in the forest sector, however, we do continue to work on short term projects primarily focused on policy, forest sector training, bioenergy and business support.

FNFC will be reviewing and analyzing forest policy this year with a focus on generating a barriers and recommendations report for communities and governments. Stay tuned and please check out the work we did last year, it can be found on our web page www.fnforestrycouncil.ca

FNFC is involved with the Forest Products Sector Council (FPSC) in raising awareness and building mechanisms related to forest sector employment. An FPSC recent report highlights significant jobs in forestry over the next ten years so please check it out. We will be sending out hard copies but you can see the digital version on their web page at www.fpsc-cspf.ca

In the area of bioenergy, we continue to support the development of fuel switching projects for first nations. FNFC will continue to work with the FN Energy and Mining Council and the BC Bioenergy Network in this area.

Business development will continue to be a focus for the FNFC as our communities have, and continue to be active in owning and managing

forest tenures. We hold over twelve million cubic meters of annual timber harvest agreements and FNFC is available to support these operations in tenure management and marketing. Regional networks or business hubs are being developed which is encouraging as it supports smaller community opportunities for success. Let's continue to work together to maximize aboriginal forest opportunities through timber tenures and stewardship.

As you may know, the federal programs for forestry are very focused on economic development and FNFC is working with the Canadian Forest service and FNESS on programs that will continue to support business development, partnerships, and fuel management.

Due to lack of funding our office will be closed over the summer while we develop new projects, so please accept our apology if we do not respond in a timely fashion.

Please be mindful of the late summer season that is now upon us and help prevent forest fires in and around communities.



First Nations Energy & Mining Council

FNEMC UPDATE

There are two important updates that the FNEMC wants to bring to the attention of the Chiefs and First Nations communities in BC. Both these issues were discussed at the FNS, UBCIC and BCAFN meetings in June and resolutions were passed with regard to their implementation.

1. First Nations – China strategy.

A strategy to engage with the unprecedented interest by the Chinese government and industry to invest in natural resource opportunities in BC is being developed by the FNEMC. This strategy develops a clear set of principles for investing with First Nations in BC and will provide solutions to create positive partnerships with communities. It can be found on the FNEMC website at <http://fnbc.info/fnemc>

2. Mining Free Entry Reform.

Free entry assumes mining is the first and best use of land, and ignores the unresolved land question in BC. At present all lands are open for mining unless specifically excluded and mining prevails over private property interest and First Nations Title and Rights. The FNEMC wants to change this dynamic to ensure First Nations interests are protected. Currently mineral tenures are granted on a first come, first served basis and there are insufficient resources for First Nations to engage with the Crown or companies on proposed exploration sites.

Mining exploration has gone unchecked by First Nations for more than 100 years and this year we seek to develop a solutions paper to present to the Chiefs for their review and feedback. This paper will outline a different model for the conduct of mineral exploration in BC as a means of avoiding the legal and political problems endemic in the BC industry as a result of the Crown's failure to consult and accommodate Aboriginal interests when rights to mineral resources are taken up by third parties.



FNCFWC UPDATE

The First Nations Child and Family Wellness Council continue to coordinate community engagements across the province of BC to:

- Give an update on the implementation status of the *Indigenous Child at the Centre Action Plan* ;
- Receive input/direction on the components of a representative indigenous governance; framework for FNCFWC
- Explore ways the FNCFWC can collaborate effectively and efficiently;
- Chart a critical path for FNCFWC progress.

The FNCFWC will be visiting the following regions between July 25th and August 9th: Vancouver, Fraser Valley, Kamloops, Prince George, Terrace, Nanaimo, and Fort St. John.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these Community Engagements. Please contact us if you have any questions or need further information at 604.922.7795 or admin@fnfcwc.ca



FNECDC UPDATE

\$5 Million Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Reinvestment Initiative

In the fall of 2010 the Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD) brought the First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC) together with the Aboriginal Early Years Advisory Circle (AEYAC) as a Joint Steering Committee to collaborate on the disbursement of \$5 Million of funding for the Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Reinvestment Initiative. The First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC) is pleased to announce that this initiative is being renewed for 2011-12! Grant Applications are current being accepted for the following categories:

Capital: (up to \$10,000) Deadline: June 30, 2011

Language and Culture: (up to \$20,000) Deadline: June 30, 2011

Service Planning/Capacity Building: (up to \$15,000) Deadline: July 29, 2011

Program Enhancements: (up to \$15,000) Deadline August 12, 2011

The host agency for this initiative is the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centers. Please visit their website for more information and grant application packages:

www.bcaafc.com

Those wishing to gain a greater insight into First Nations early childhood development (ECD) policy and current issues can find downloadable publications and other useful resources on the Council's website: www.fnecdc.ca Please forward any questions to Jennifer Fox, FNECDC coordinator jfox@fnesc.ca



FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION STEERING COMMITTEE

Advocacy

The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the First Nations Schools Association (FNSEA) have been advocating for the Government of Canada to make meaningful and positive change through supporting the ongoing development of a quality BC First Nations K-12 Education System.

Since May 2011, we have briefed the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and the BC Regional Director General for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. Additionally, we have engaged in a public awareness campaign through media, including the Globe and Mail, National Post, Hill Times, Cable Public Affairs Canada (CPAC) and Vancouver Sun.

FNESC and the FNSEA will continue to promote the value and benefit of our BC First Nations education system, including specific needs such as support for First Nations language and culture as well as technology in our 130 First Nations schools.



Students from Snc'c'amalatn, Okanagan Indian Band

Events

FNESC and the First Peoples' Heritage, Language & Culture Council will host "Our Languages: Our Future" a First Nations Language Conference from July 10-11, 2011 in Vancouver. In addition to workshops, the conference will feature a ceremony to honour a number of Language Champions who have or are currently making a strong contribution to the future of their First Nations language through language teaching, learning, researching, promoting and revitalization efforts.

The 17th Annual Provincial Conference on Aboriginal Education will be held on November 24 - 26, 2011 in Vancouver. Applications for workshop presentations are due September 9, 2011.

Learning Resources

We have also been working on the development of a number of education resources, including a teacher resource guide called "Math First Peoples: Teaching Mathematics in a First Peoples Context Grades 8 and 9." This new resource will be supported by a summer institute which is open to all Math 8 and 9 teachers. The summer institute will also cover English First Peoples 10, 11 and 12. Details are available on our website. The deadline to RSVP is July 15, 2011.

Additionally, FNESC has completed the development of a guide entitled

"BC First Peoples Learning Resources: Books for Use in K-7 Classrooms." This guide has been created to help BC elementary school teachers make appropriate decisions about authentic First Peoples texts for use with students from Kindergarten through to Grade 7. This guide is available on our website.

Employment

FNESC is recruiting for the following positions:

- Connected Classrooms Coordinator
- Senior Data Manager
- Special Education Consultant
- Director, Special Education
- Executive Director

To learn more about these employment opportunities, please visit our website.

For more information, contact FNESC at 604-925-6087 info@fnesc.ca www.fnesc.ca



ICAB UPDATE

Regional Forums

ICAB hosted its second regional forum *Best Practices in Aboriginal Procurement and Partnership for Industry and Business* in Tk'emlups territory June 6 and 7 and thank the First Nations and corporate participants for making the day a great success.



AtBC UPDATE

The Aboriginal Tourism Association of British Columbia released a report on the status of British Columbia's Aboriginal cultural tourism industry in June 2011. This report showed how the Aboriginal cultural tourism sector has grown dramatically over the past four years, exceeding expectations in job creation, economic impact and nearly doubling the number of visitors to Aboriginal cultural attractions.

The *AtBC Blueprint Strategy: Tourism Performance Review 2006-2010* summarizes the results of a partnership between the Aboriginal Tourism Association of BC (AtBC), the Province of B.C. and the Government of Canada. The partnership was designed to strengthen Aboriginal cultural tourism as an economic driver within the tourism sector.

Highlights from the report include a number of economic achievements:

- An estimated 3.7 million tourists experienced some form of Aboriginal cultural tourism experience in 2010, almost double the number from 2006.
- There are more than 200 Aboriginal tourism businesses in B.C., about 23 per cent of these established between 2006 and 2010.
- An estimated 2,226 full-time equivalent jobs were generated by these businesses in 2010, a 32 per cent increase from 2006.
- Aboriginal tourism expenditures reached an estimated \$40 million in 2010, representing a 6 per cent

ICAB will be partnering with the Canadian Aboriginal and Minority Supplier Council (CAMSC) to deliver the next forum scheduled for September 19th in Fort St. John. This forum will shift its focus to procurement challenges, opportunities and processes as they relate to Aboriginal business and will examine the role and benefits of the CAMSC Aboriginal supplier accreditation program in procurement.

CAMSC is a private sector-led, non-profit membership organization governed by a board of Directors comprised of major multinational corporations operating in Canada. The organization aims to boost economic development efforts and employment and is associated with the National Minority Supplier Development Council – an American non-profit organization providing a direct link between corporate America and minority-owned businesses.

Aboriginal Business Association

ICAB is moving forward with the BC Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce by establishing an Aboriginal Business Association as an important first step. Details will be posted on the ICAB website as they become available.

Upcoming Events

"On Common Ground"

Celebration – The 2nd annual fundraising event at AtBC's Klahowya Village in Stanley Park on Friday, July 22. Take a ride on the Spirit Catcher Train, enjoy an exquisite First Nations inspired dinner catered by *Salmon and Bannock* and then dance under the stars to the rock and blues music of the *Original Beat*. Calvin Helin – son of a hereditary chief of the Lax Kw'alaams community (Tsimshian Nation) - author, lawyer and entrepreneur will give the keynote address.

Breakfast Meetings – September 23 and December 9 at the Segal School of Business, SFU from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Presenters will be posted on the ICAB website when confirmed.

"On Common Ground"

Gathering – November 18 on Vancouver Island, venue to be confirmed.

Annual General Meeting (6:30 – 8:00 p.m.) August 11 at Segal School of Business, SFU (500 Granville Street, Vancouver)

For more information or to purchase Celebration tickets go to ICAB's website www.icab.ca

Board Members

IBAB welcomes three new Board members:

- Shona Nelson (Director of Human Resources, Treaty 8 Tribal Association) Test.
- Norm Fraser (Business Manager, Nupqu Development Corporation)
- Lee Beran (Recruiting Manager, FortisBC)

Membership

ICAB honors and welcomes seven new members:

- Hazco Environmental Services
- Land Forest People Consulting
- Raincity Strategies
- Spectra Energy
- Treaty 8 Tribal Association
- Triton Environmental Consultants Ltd.
- Tseil-Waututh Nation

Thank you for becoming part of the vision of creating an economy where Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people prosper together.

increase over 2009 levels and doubling over 2006 levels.

In 2006, AtBC initiated an Aboriginal Cultural Tourism Blueprint Strategy focused on strengthening and growing the industry throughout British Columbia. The Province of B.C. and the Government of Canada each contributed \$5 million to assist AtBC in building awareness of cultural tourism opportunities, developing and providing skills training and promoting Aboriginal tourism products.

By 2012, about 3.9 million visitors are expected to include Aboriginal cultural tourism experiences in their B.C. trip itineraries. It is anticipated that these visitors will collectively spend around \$43 million, representing an increase of about 115 per cent over 2006.

The 2011 tourism season is in full swing now and AtBC has supported the Aboriginal cultural tourism industry as follows:

1. Release of the 2011 Aboriginal Culture and Adventures Guide;
2. Design the National Aboriginal Day Insert for the Province showcasing the Aboriginal Cultural Tourism Industry;
3. Opened the *Klahowya Village in Stanley Park*, An Aboriginal cultural tourism showcase each day from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM until September 11th. AtBC has themed this event around the story of the *Raven Saves the Sun*. The Klahowya Village is a 2010 Winter Olympic legacy event to ensure Aboriginal culture, through tourism, continues to be showcased in a respectful and authentic manner as witnessed by the world during the opening and closing

ceremonies. AtBC is proud of the productive working relationships with the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations who continue to support this new attraction designed to enhance Aboriginal tourism awareness for all AtBC stakeholders throughout British Columbia;

4. Plus many other initiatives.

For more information please view the AtBC website @ www.aboriginalbc.com, sign up for our email distributions, or contact our office located in West Vancouver 1-604-921-1070.



FNTC UPDATE

The First Nations Technology Council has received BC Capacity Funding and will be working with Carrier Sekani Tribal Council members on Records and Information Management issues focusing on the Land and Resources areas. Results will be shared. Another part of the project will build on work done by the Nuuchah-nulth (NTC) and Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) to develop an Online Atlas. Improvements will be made to the technology that will be shared back with NTC and ONA and then installed in a First Nation that will meet criteria to be developed as part of the project. FNTC can also share the technology framework with any other First Nation that has the resources to implement the Atlas. ONA is also contributing their Manuals on 'best practices' on digitizing maps which will then form

part of the Digitization Toolkit that FNTC is developing as part of another project being done in partnership with the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC, Heiltsuk, Namgis and Ktunaxa, the UBC School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS) and the Museum of Anthropology (MOA).

As part of the Technology Capacity Plan, FNTC has recently purchased a MAC Mobile Lab. This lab will be used to deliver multimedia training as one of the offerings of Regional Technology Planning. Teaching materials for a culturally relevant animation workshop are being developed and tested in Doig River as part of FNTC's goal to build capacity with youth. Once tested, our plan is to deliver this workshop in other regions. FNTC has also been granted an IGNITE Camp in a box by IBM. The camp, aimed at young people ages 8-14, consists of 10 sets of lego robotics, 10 sets of snap circuits, 10 sets of data miner as well as a mobile lab comprised of 10 laptops. The goal of the IGNITE Camp is to support delivery of curriculum, supporting math and science. This new model will be tested in July in Dzawada'enuxw and Ahousaht.

Following up on our very successful GIS training last year, FNTC will be developing some First Nations specific GIS curriculum. We are working with Seabird College to make this curriculum part of the program they deliver at Seabird but it will also be available online.

To formalize some of the partnerships FNTC has been building, we have recently signed MOUs with Heiltsuk Nation, IAHLA (Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association) and ASTTBC (Applied Science, Technologists and Technicians of BC). Other MOUs are in development.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- The First Nations Education Steering Committee and The First Peoples' Heritage, Language & Culture Council will host "Our Languages: Our Future" a First Nations Language Conference from July 10-11, 2011 in Vancouver
- BC Elders Gathering: July 12-15
Abbotsford Tradex Centre,
Abbotsford
- The AFN 32nd Annual General Assembly will be held July 12-14 in Moncton, New Brunswick. See www.afn.ca for more information.
- "On Common Ground"
Celebration – 2nd annual fundraising event at AtBC's Klahowya Village in Stanley Park on July 22.
- ICAB Annual General Meeting (6:30 – 8:00 p.m.) August 11 at Segal School of Business, SFU (500 Granville Street, Vancouver)
- The 17th Annual Provincial Conference on Aboriginal Education will be held on November 24 - 26, 2011 in Vancouver. Applications for workshop presentations are due September 9, 2011.