



## Commonage Lands - Sto:lo Community Shared Lands

January 12, 2022 | 9:00 am  
ZOOM Audio/Visual Meeting Notes

### Present:

Chairperson  
Recording Secretary

Chief David Jimmie  
Abby Duncan

Aitchelitz

Chief Angie Bailey

Leq'á:mel

Chief Alice Thompson  
Councillor Dawn Styran  
Councillor Phi Sherwood

Matsqui

Chief Alice McKay  
Councillor Brenda Morgan

Shxwhá:y

Chief Robert Gladstone  
Councillor Sandra Corpuz

Skowkale

Chief Mark Point  
Councillor Willy Hall

Sumas

Councillor Chris Silver

Tzeachten

Chief Derek Epp  
Councillor Sandra Bonner-Pedderson (via Zoom)  
Councillor Tony Malloway (via Zoom)  
Councillor Loren Muth  
Councillor Melvin Williams

Yakwekwioose

Chief Terry Horne  
Councillor Jazmine Horne

Chawathil

Councillor Norm Florence

Cheam

Chief Andrew Victor  
Councillor Annie Silver  
Councillor Luke Pike

Kwantlen

Councillor Tumia Knott

Popkum

Band Manager Brandon Murphy

Scowlitz

Councillor Joseph Chapman

Seabird Island

Councillor Marcie Peters  
Janice Parcey - Director of Governmental Affairs

Skwah

Chief Lara Mussell Savage

Sts'ailes

Chief Ralph Leon  
Councillor Kelsey Charlie  
Councillor Boyd Peters

**Regrets**

Skawahlook

Chief Maureen Chapman

Chawathil

Chief Rhoda Peters

Sts'ailes

Councillor Cheryl Charlie

**Absent**

Kwaw Kwaw Apilt  
Shxw'owhámel  
Soowahlie

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at: 9:15 am

## **1.0 Opening prayer by Sumas Councillor Chris Silver**

## **2.0 Chairperson Chief David Jimmie presented the Commonage Lands Stó:lō Community Shared Land PowerPoint Presentation**

The purpose of today's meeting is:

1. Focus on completing the Coqualeetza Additions to Reserve (ATR), then we will have all 3 properties in title of the 21 bands.
2. Secondly outline the potential structure of working together – Commonage Lands Working Committee.
3. Ideas of the highest and best uses of the properties and how we can maximize them to benefit everyone.

### **Comments:**

#### **Sts'ailes**

Sts'ailes put out an email after the Kamloops Residential School news. They also had a burning at St. Mary's (Pekw'Xe:yles). Part of Sts'Ailes' healing is they will be taking down their day school. We, as leadership, should improve the use of the St. Mary's formal residential school property.

#### **Matsqui**

Leq'a:mel, Matsqui, and Sumas are neighbors of Pekw'Xe:yles. There is a substantial opportunity for the 21 bands for the economical development of a Stó:lō Riverfront Hotel and Conference Centre, cleanse the lands and bring together our cultural. Allow our communities to witness us on doing the work of gathering wisdom and the work we do as Chief and Council.

#### **Sts'ailes**

Everyone on the meeting today has the potential and capacity to succeed with these lands.

#### **Leq'a:mel**

Tear the buildings down at Pekw'xe:yles and start the healing.

#### **Matsqui**

Suggested to explore the idea of the 21 bands to enter into a land code for these properties. There may be some funds available for management. Contact the Lands Advisory Board (LAB).

#### **Shxwhá:y**

Keep in mind the spiritual aspect and the unextinguished rights and title of our territory.

#### **Matsqui**

Matsqui, Leq'a:mel and Sumas acquired the Mission Lands in 2010. Matsqui also acquired the old hospital lands on McCallum Road. We are sitting on lands that need to be used, it is possible.

#### **Skwah**

Make space and preserve our history and legacies to educate the public.

### 3.0 Communities Land Code Status:

Land Code	Land Code - Development Stages
Athelets	Popkum
Leq'a:mel	Skwah
Matsqui	
Skowkale	
Shxwhá:y	
Squiala	
Sumas	
Tzeachten	
Yakweakwioose	
Chawathil	
Cheam	
Kwantlen	
Kwaw Kwaw Apilt	
Scowlitz	
Seabird Island	
Shxw'ōwhámel	
Skawahlook	
Soowahlie	
Sts'ailes	

### 4.0 Next Steps

1. Complete the BCR process for Coqualeetza
2. Gather a list of names for the committee with alternates.
3. Determine the structure of the committee, collectively, and how we make decisions.
4. Determine a process of how we vet and vote on recommendations/suggestions.
5. Conduct the highest and best uses study.
6. Survey what the communities want to see from these developments; health and well-being of our communities, list of priorities, revenue distribution, who is allocating their time. For example, the \$600,00 to be allocated to the bands could be put back into all these initiatives.

### 5.0 Chairperson's recap and closing remarks

1. Chief McKay recommended that the committee members have alternates to attend meetings to keep the process moving forward.
2. Chief Gladstone reminds us of the importance of ties to family, grounding ourselves in culture and the important spiritual work that needs to take place.

Also the reminder of our unextinguished title and rights and the historical context that we have.

3. Commonage Lands Working Committee to date are:

Aitchelitz Chief Angie Bailey  
Matsqui Councillor Brenda Morgan                      Alternate, Chief Alice McKay  
Tzeachten Chief Derek Epp  
Seabird Island Janice Parsey  
Shxwhá:y Chief Robert Gladstone

4. Chief Ralph Leon's reference to the site's uses and potential for learning and healing.
5. Chief Alice McKay's mention of using Xa:ytem for healing and coming together moving forward.
6. Councillor Brenda Morgan's suggestions of reminder of family conferences that took place, conference centre, carving shed, river tours, importance of the work you are doing at home with your neighbors around low-income housing, have the public and our own people witness our work collectively.
7. Councillor Kelsey Charlie mentioned the work done by Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh and Squamish that we've seen in the headlines over the years.
8. Chief Alice McKay mentioned their land acquisition outside of reserve lands and how they can develop those lands.
9. Chief Lara Mussell-Savage reminder of the reflection of the work currently underway around the 215 and teach the public of the historical impacts that plagued our people over the years.
10. References around unity and how our Elders fought for these lands and our responsibility to uphold that work.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Action 3**

Chief Jimmie and administrative staff to draft the wording for the BCR for the Additions to Reserve for Coqualeetza and send out to the 21 communities for signatures.

**Action 4**

All communities to provide Abby.Duncan@stolonation.bc.ca with your up-to-date contact information.

**Action 5**

Chief Mark Point to forward his suggestions on the 3-step process for next steps that he has outlined.

### Action 6

Chief Jimmie to contact those who were absent to provide an update:

1. Kwaw Kwaw Apilt
2. Shxw'ōwhámel
3. Soowahlie

## 6.0 Scheduling

1. Commonage Lands Working Committee Meeting  
March 3, 2022  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
ZOOM Meeting  
(Abby has sent out "SAVE THE DATE" email to all on January 12, 2022)
2. Commonage Lands Collective Meeting  
April 14, 2022  
Matsqui First Nation  
(Abby has sent out "SAVE THE DATE" email to all on January 12, 2022)

Meeting concluded at 11:05 am