

Stó:lō Collective – 21 Communities

May 1, 2025 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Shxw'ōwhámél First Nation, 58700A St. Elmo Rd, Hope, BC

And via ZOOM

Present:

Aitchelitz - Athelets	Councillor Leona Sam (In-person)
Chawathil	Chief Norman Florence (In-person)
Cheam	Councillor Lisa Douglas
Leq'a:mel	Councillor Lance Campo
Shxw'ōwhámél	Si:yam Lenora Fraser (In-person) Si:yam Deanna Peters (In-person) Lands Coordinator Angie Dick (In-person) Lands Manager Peter Andrew (In-person) I-Monitor Raymond Louie (In-person)
Skawahlook - Sq'ewá:lxw	Councillor Jenn Carmen (Zoom) Managing Director Sharron Young (Zoom) Office Manager Michael Suedfeld (Zoom)
Skowkale - Sq'ewqéyl	Chief Darcy Paul (In-person)
Skwah - Sqwá	Chief Johnathon Prest (In-person) Councillor Alisha Peters (In-person) Councillor Tana Mussell (In-person)
Sumas – Semá:th	Councillor Troy Ganzeveld (In-person)
Tzeachten - Ch'iyáqtel	Councillor Hayden Guilderson (In-person))
Yakweakwioose - Yeqwyeqwí:ws	Councillor Nikki LaRock (In-person)
Chairperson	Cheam EA, Nicholas Point (In-person)
Project Coordinator	Val Sam (In-person)
Assistant	Murray Sam (In-person)
Executive Assistant	Kelly Willmets (Zoom)
Administrative Support	Abby Duncan (In-person)

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:24 am.

1.0 Agenda accepted as presented.

2.0 Opening Prayer by Justin Kelly

3.0 April 3, 2025 meeting notes accepted as presented

4.0 Quick recap

Discussions about property management and decision-making processes. Attendees addressed the need for regional representatives, proposed changes to the council's structure, and discussed the future of specific properties, including potential demolition of the St. Mary's former residential school building. The conversation ended with agreements on hybrid meeting formats, upcoming conferences, and the importance of community engagement in decision-making.

5.0 Next steps

- All attendees to appoint a Stó:lō representative and alternate for their community and inform Val and Murray.
- All attendees to discuss the decision-making mechanism (50% plus one vs. 75%) with their leadership and provide feedback.
- All attendees to review and respond to the Band Council Resolution regarding the tearing down of St. Mary's Residential School.
- All attendees to consider potential land uses for the St. Mary's property and be prepared to discuss at future meetings.
- All attendees to mark their calendars for the next meeting on June 12th at 10:00 AM, to be held in a hybrid format at Building 8B, Government House.

6.0 Meeting

Val discussed the need for representatives from each region to be officially implemented for the council. She also proposed a decision-making model for the meetings, suggesting either a 50% or 75% participation rate. The representatives and their alternates were also discussed, with Val asking for their names to be provided.

7.0 Future of Three Properties Discussed

Val discussed the future of three properties, with the ultimate goal of conducting a land use study for each. She mentioned the need for a forum to move forward and decide on the properties' future. Val also shared an article from the government website that explained the history of the properties and their transfer. The article mentioned the involvement of three chiefs and the signing of an agreement to transfer approximately 68 Hectres, representing three nations. The agreement aimed to create a partner parcel

of approximately 50 acres for public recreation and development, with the potential to support housing and increase economic and social opportunities.

8.0 Representation

Val discussed the challenges of the current system. She proposed a new system where decisions would be made based on a majority of attendees in meetings. The team also discussed the need to update the Sqwá Chief and Council information and email lists, and the possibility of appointing a Sqwá representative and alternative. The team agreed to bring these updates back to their leadership and to use a BCR template for participants in attendance.

9.0 Community Growth and Productivity Presentation

Val discussed the growth of the community, mentioning that they have seen significant expansion over the years. She also mentioned the need for a presentation to showcase the new productivity and the importance of visiting the school to see the exterior of the buildings. Val also talked about the need to inform students about their experiences. She also mentioned the need to start looking at uses.

10.0 Scheduling

In the meeting, Val discussed the possibility of having monthly meetings either in person or on Zoom. The team decided to have hybrid meetings. They also discussed the upcoming Gathering Wisdoms Conference in Vancouver from June 3rd to 6th.

June 12th at 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Government House Building 8B
7201 Vedder Rd, Chilliwack

Meeting concluded at 11:45 pm