



**ELDERS VOICE**

**31st Annual BC Elders Gathering**

Dear Elders and Support People,  
I am having difficulties at the present time with our own elder's website www.bcelders.com where all of the forms for the Annual Elders Gathering would normally be available to you, but the problem is being worked on and everything will be up-to-date a.s.a.p.

The forms for the 31st Annual Elders Gathering are now available from the Squamish organizers and I am very pleased to be able to print all of them for you in this issue. This year's host has a beautifully put together website and everyone is invited to visit their site at: **www.eldersgathering.squamish.net** Not only are all of the forms available on their site, but they are also planning on having weekly updates in the form of a newsletter that will help people keep current on plans and developments.

Congratulations to **George Jacobs and Marjorie Natrall**, both of the Squamish Nation, who are the reigning 2007 King and Queen for the 31st Annual BC Elders Gathering. Their bios will be featured in the June issue of the E.V.

**MY SUPPORTING THE NOMINAL (\$30) REGISTRATION FEE**

I not only supported the initiating of a nominal fee in relation to the Gathering, I have strongly advocated the need for one to be charged for years. Not many groups want to step forward to host this event when they find out it costs approx. \$70,000 just to provide one meal at it...let alone when they sit down and add up all of the costs that they would be expected to cover as host. This Gathering is a 31 year tradition that has had no one rushing forward to host it for several years now. The event started with a handful of people and now, in 2007, this year's host can likely expect between 3000-4000 people. The sheer size of the event dictates that people really need to share in the costs to soften the amount that each host needs to raise each year.

It is time for people to not only fundraise for their travel and accommodations to attend the event, but it is also time for all groups to help out with the financial responsibilities of hosting the event. This nominal fee won't cover a lot of the expenses, but it will help. Sincerely, D. Stirling, BCECCS Coordinator

**Inside this issue**

Easy Bakers Corner/Handy Tips/Website Information	2
List of Paid Support Fees	3
2007 Gathering Agenda	4
2007 Gathering Registration Form	5
2007 Gathering Vendor Application Form	6
2007 Gathering Volunteer Form	7
2007 Info Booth Application	8

**Pgs. 9-12: 2007 Accommodations List for the 31st Annual Elders Gathering**

**Pgs. 13-16: Elders Transportation Program Application due by June 15/07**

**Pgs. 17-19: First Nations Leadership Council's Information Bulletin - April 2007 Issue**

**Pgs. 20-21: BC Winners of the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards**

**Pg. 22: "Privatization of Water" from Chief Wayne Christian**

**Pg. 23: BC First Nations Justice Forum**

**Pg. 24: Back Page**

**BC Elders Gathering Info Corner and BCECCS Contact Information/ Proverbs/Bible Quotes/Quotes/Zen Humour/Zodiac**

## Easy Bakers Corner – Mint Brownie Cups – Makes 12

Melt 2 1/2 squares (2 1/2 oz.) unsweetened chocolate and 1/2 cup of butter or margarine in a medium saucepan. Stir in 1 level cup of sugar. Add 2 eggs (beaten) and 1/2 tsp. of vanilla and 1/2 tsp. of mint extract.

In a mixing bowl combine 1/2 cup **plus** 2 Tbsp. of all purpose flour and 1/2 tsp. of baking powder. Add to butter mixture.

Line a muffin pan with 12 cup-cake liners. Fill each with 2 Tablespoons of batter.

Bake at 350°F for 13 to 15 minutes until a toothpick barely comes out clean.

Remove to cool on rack. Dust with powdered sugar when cool. The cups will sink slightly in the middle. Garnish with sliced strawberries and enjoy.

### *Handy Tips*

**Reducing Static Cling...**Pin a small safety pin to the seam of your slip and you will not have a clingy skirt or dress. Same thing works with slacks that cling when wearing panty hose. Place pin in seam of slacks and - voila - static is gone.

**Squirrel Away!...**To keep squirrels from eating your plants sprinkle your plants with cayenne pepper. The cayenne pepper doesn't hurt the plant and the squirrels won't come near it.

## What Can you please share?

The following is a short list of Elders suggestions of what might be shared: Your local Newsletters/Upcoming Local Events/Prayers/Poems/Quotes/Comments/Storytelling/Drawings/Articles of Interest/Native Songs Lyrics/Wellness Seminars/Obituaries/Birthday Wishes, etc. **Submissions are best forwarded to me via email** by the 15th of the preceding month. If you are interested in providing articles, please do so, I look forward to hearing from anyone who wants to contribute to the content of your newsletter. Gilakasla, Donna Stirling

### **'PRESERVING THE PAST'**

**New Elder's Website: [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com)**

The *First Ever* Elder's Website "Preserving the Past" is now online (Sept. 2002). Registration forms, booth forms, maps of the host territory, accommodation information, etc. concerning the Annual Elders Gatherings are available each year on the BC Elders Communication Center Society's website [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com) as soon as they are made available from each new host community.

Issues of your Elders Voice Newsletter are also posted on the website each month, though all issues still continue to be mailed out to your Elder's Contact People throughout the province (to ensure that no one is left out because of a lack of access to the internet).

\*\*\*Comments? Please feel free to call in to the Communication Center - contact info is on the back page.\*\*\*

### Disclaimer:

Health articles, etc. are provided as a courtesy and neither the BC Elders Communication Center Society's Board/Members or anyone working on its behalf mean this information to be used to replace your doctor's and other professional's advice. You should contact your family physician or health care worker for all health care matters. Information is provided in the Elders Voice for your reference only. And opinions contained in this publication are not those of Donna Stirling, Coordinator unless her name appears below the material.

## **GRATITUDE LIST**

**Groups who have thankfully paid their \$250 'Yearly Support Fee'  
so far for the Dec. 2006 – Nov. 2007 Year**

1. Quatsino First Nation
2. Burnstick Promotions - Don Burnstick
3. Neskonalith Indian Band
4. We Wai Kum First Nation
5. Wet'suwet'en First Nation
6. Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em Band
7. Comox First Nation
8. Bridge River Indian Band
9. Squiala First Nation
10. Cook's Ferry Indian Band
11. BC Assembly of First Nation
12. Tsawataineuk Band
13. McLeod Lake Tse'khene Elders Society
14. Lower Nicola Indian Band
15. Osoyoos First Nation
16. Ditidaht First Nation
17. Uchucklesaht Band
18. Adams Lake Indian Band
19. Canoe Creek Band
20. Samahquam Band
21. Ka:'Yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' Nation
22. Kamloops Indian Band
23. Saik'uz First Nation
24. Qualicum First Nation
25. Xaxli'p Indian Band
26. We Wai Kai Nation
27. Lower Kootenay Band Family Health Services
28. Hailika'as Heiltsuk Health Centre
29. Snuneymuxw First Nation
30. T'It'Qet Elders Council
31. Hamatla Treaty Society
32. Lower Similkameen Indian Band
33. West Moberly First Nation
34. Lheidli T'enneh Band
35. Tsewultun Health Centre
36. Lytton First Nation
37. SIMPCW First Nation (\$100)
38. Gitksan Health Society
39. Carnegie Community Centre
40. Doig River First Nation
41. Sechelt Indian Band (\$50)
42. Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs
43. BC Assoc. of Aboriginal of Friendship Centres
44. Tansi Friendship Centre Society
45. Old Massett Village Council
- 46.

**Dear Elders Contact Person,**

**\*If your office has paid the support fee, thank you very much for your assistance!**

**\*If your office/group has VOIDED the Invoice for this year and faxed it back in to this office, then thank you all very much, as it saves office time on this end having received a reply from you.**

**\*If you are in the process of paying the fee with the new fiscal year upon us, then thank you very much for your continued efforts!**

**\*Staff changes often occur, so please call into the office if you require the Invoice to be resent to a new Contact Person.**

**Thank you for your continued support!  
Donna Stirling, BCECCS Coordinator**

31<sup>st</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering  
August 8, 9, 10, 2007  
Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre & Capilano Reserve  
Agenda

**Day One – Wednesday August 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Vancouver Convention Centre**

9am – 11:30 am	Opening Ceremonies/Grand Entry (Exhibition Main Room A & B) MC TBA
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch Delivered to Exhibition Main Room
12:00	Elder Gathering Announcements
1:00 pm	Keynote Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Chief</li><li>▪ Health</li></ul>
1:30 – 3:30	Workshops Level 2 – sign up for seat
4:00 – 6:00	Dinner
All Day	Ongoing Entertainment in Exhibition Main Room

**Day Two – Thursday August 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Vancouver Convention Centre**

9am	Opening Prayer
9:30 – 11:30am	Workshops
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch (delivered to Main room)
1:00pm	Guest Speaker
1:30 – 3:30	Workshops
4:00 – 6:00	Dinner - Voting for 2008 BC Elders Gathering Host and King and Queen
7:00 pm	Dance
All Day	Ongoing Entertainment in Main Room

**Day Three – Friday August 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Capilano Reserve All Day**

9:00am	Opening Prayer Keynote Speaker
12:00pm	Lunch Closing Ceremonies

# PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM

**31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING**  
AUGUST 8 & 9, 2007: VANCOUVER CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE  
AUGUST 10, 2007: CAPILANO RESERVE

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Band / Nation: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Group Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

~~~~Elders Group Leaders will be asked to check in on behalf of their group~~~~

---

## HEALTH CONDITIONS

Medical Conditions & Allergies:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Person & Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

*All Participants are requested to carry medical and contact information at all times. Thank you.*

**Registration Fee: \$30.00 per person**

(please make **cheque payable to Squamish Nation**)

"The BC Elders Communication Center Society strongly supports the initiating of a nominal Registration Fee to assist - to some small degree - with the enormous costs associated with hosting thousands and thousands of Elders and support people attending the Annual BC Elders Gathering this year...With the Elders Gathering now in its 31st year, and likely to attract between 4000-5000 attendees, it is no longer the responsible course of action to incur a lot of costs for administration etc. and not charge a nominal fee"  
Donna Stirling, Coordinator, BC Elders Communication Center Society

**COMPLETE REGISTRATION** at [www.eldersgathering.squamish.net](http://www.eldersgathering.squamish.net)

- On Line
- Download Form

|                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Register by <b>May 1, 2007</b> and you will be entered into a draw to win \$750.00 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Register by <b>June 1, 2007</b> and you will be entered into a draw to win \$250.00 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Registration will not be accepted after July 13, 2007</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|

**MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION and PAYMENT to:**

Elders Gathering Registration Officer  
Squamish Nation  
PO Box 86131, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5  
Phone (640) 980-4553 or Toll-free 1 (877) 628-2288

# VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM

**31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING**  
**AUGUST 8 & 9, 2007: VANCOUVER CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE**

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TABLE

\_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee: \$175.00 per table**

(please make **money orders payable to Squamish Nation**) \*\*\*\* No Personal Cheques Will Be Accepted\*\*\*\*

## NOTES

- 1. Set up to begin at 8:00 am on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007.**
- Each Vendor will have the use of one table and two chairs.
- Each Vendor will have to contribute one (1) item for the door prize.
- Vendors will NOT be permitted to sell food, beverages or raffle tickets!
- No burning will be allowed in the building **AT ALL TIMES!**
- Cancellation:  
Notice of Cancellation must be provided no later than August 1, 2007. Any Cancellation after this date will not be issued a refund.
- 7. The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering Host will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items or personal injury.**

**COMPLETE REGISTRATION** at [www.eldersgathering.squamish.net](http://www.eldersgathering.squamish.net)

- On Line
- Download Form

**MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION and PAYMENT to:**

Elders Gathering Registration Officer  
Squamish Nation  
PO Box 86131  
North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5

**GENERAL INQUIRES contact:**

Monica Jacobs, Squamish Nation  
PO Box 86131, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5  
Phone (604) 980-4553 or Toll-free 1 (877) 628-2288



# Volunteers

## 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING

AUGUST 8 & 9, 2007: VANCOUVER CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

AUGUST 10, 2007: CAPILANO RESERVE

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN UP FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE - 3 HOUR TIME SLOT:**

#### August 8, 2007

- 8:30 am – 11:30 am
- 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
- 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm
- 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- All Day

#### August 9, 2007

- 8:30 am – 11:30 am
- 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
- 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm
- 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- All Day

#### August 10, 2007

- 8:30 am – 11:30 am
- 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

### **WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP:**

- |                                        |                                            |                                            |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Host/Hostess      | <input type="checkbox"/> Registration      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Entry   | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Booth | <input type="checkbox"/> Self Care/Respite |
|                                        |                                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Set-up            |

### **DO YOU HAVE:**

|                       |     |    |              |
|-----------------------|-----|----|--------------|
| Valid Drivers Licence | Yes | No | Class: _____ |
| First Aid Ticket      | Yes | No | Level: _____ |
| First Host            | Yes | No |              |
| Food Safe             | Yes | No |              |

### **COMPLETE REGISTRATION** at [www.eldersgathering.squamish.net](http://www.eldersgathering.squamish.net)

- On Line
- Download Form

**Fax** completed form to:  
 (604) 980-4523  
 Attn: Elders Gathering Registration Officer, Squamish Nation, North Vancouver

### **GENERAL INQUIRES** contact:

T.O.C.  
 Phone (604) 980-2443 or Toll free (866) 980-2443

*Support our Elders, volunteer your time*

# INFORMATION BOOTH REGISTRATION FORM

31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING  
AUGUST 8 & 9, 2007: VANCOUVER CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## TYPE OF INFORMATION WILL YOU BE PROVIDING:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee: \$575.00 per table**

(please make **money orders payable to Squamish Nation**) \*\*\*\* No Personal Cheques Will Be Accepted\*\*\*\*

## NOTES

1. **Set up to begin at 8:00 am on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007.**
2. Each Vendor will have the use of one table and two chairs.
3. Each Vendor will have to contribute one (1) item for the door prize.
4. Vendors will NOT be permitted to sell food, beverages or raffle tickets!
5. No burning will be allowed in the building **AT ALL TIMES!**
6. Cancellation:  
Notice of Cancellation must be provided no later than August 1, 2007. Any Cancellation after this date will not be issued a refund.
7. **The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual BC Elders Gathering Host will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items or personal injury.**

**COMPLETE REGISTRATION** at [www.eldersgathering.squamish.net](http://www.eldersgathering.squamish.net)

- On Line
- Download Form

**MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION and PAYMENT to:**

Elders Gathering Registration Officer  
Squamish Nation  
PO Box 86131  
North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5

**GENERAL INQUIRES contact:**

Monica Jacobs, Squamish Nation  
PO Box 86131, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5  
Phone (604) 980-4553 or Toll-free 1 (877) 628-2288



## Hotel Information

### for the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Elders Gathering

**All Rates are quoted as approximate and do not reflect the taxes**

Ramada Downtown Vancouver  
435 West Pender Street  
Vancouver BC, V6B 1V2

Reservations - 1-888-389-5888  
Fax - 604-488-1090

[www.ramadadowntownvancouver.com/home.html](http://www.ramadadowntownvancouver.com/home.html)

Limited availability. But group discount - Please state Elders Gathering  
\$ 149.00

#### Features:

- Full Breakfast Buffet with two hot items served in our breakfast lounge
- Complimentary hi-speed wireless Internet
- Trip Rewards Points
- Aeroplan Partner
- Valet parking service - \$23 per night with In & Out privileges
- Room Service provided by [Boston Pizza & Bistro](#)

|                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Limited availability. But group discount – Mention Elders Gathering!!!! |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Pan Pacific Vancouver  
300 – 999 Canada Place  
Vancouver BC, V6C 3B5

Reservations - 604.662.8111  
Fax - 604.685.8090

[www.panpacific.com](http://www.panpacific.com)

\$ 299.00

#### Features:

- ❖ Same Building as the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre
- ❖ In-room coffee and tea maker, refrigerated private bar & refreshment centre
- ❖ Flat screen TV, in-room movies
- ❖ In-room safe

Mention Elders Gathering for Group Rate!!!!

Fairmont Waterfront  
900 Canada Place Way  
Vancouver BC, V6C3L5

Reservations - 604.691-1991  
Fax - 604.691-1999

[www.fairmont.com/waterfront](http://www.fairmont.com/waterfront)

\$ 249.00

Features:

All guest rooms at The Fairmont Waterfront offer the following amenities:

- Air-conditioning with individual climate control
- Alarm clock-radio
- Bathrobes
- Cable television with in-room pay movies, video games and express video check-out
- Coffee/Tea maker
- Computer dataport
- Hair dryer
- High Speed Internet Access in all Guestrooms
- Iron and ironing board
- Mini-bar
- Telephone (cordless) with voice-mail
- Windows that open to the outside

Elders Gathering Group Rate Mention Reservation Number CF260!!!!

Accent Inn Burnaby  
3777 Henning Drive  
Burnaby BC, V5C 6N5

Reservations - 604.473-5000  
Fax - 604.473-5095

[www.accentinns.com/](http://www.accentinns.com/)

**\$ 105.00**

Features:

- Shuttle Service – please inquire upon reservation
- In-room fresh brewed **coffee and tea**
- Ample **free parking**

- Pay-Per-View movies
- **Kitchen units & suites** available
- Blow dryers in all rooms
- Irons & Ironing boards and mini fridges in all rooms
- **Complimentary shuttle within Burnaby**
- **Free high speed Internet** access available in all rooms
- Wireless internet in lobby
- **Complimentary newspapers**
- Fully air conditioned
- ABC Country Restaurant, open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- [Wheelchair Accessible Rooms](#)
- Non-smoking rooms available
- Spacious rooms and suites, queen and king size beds with **Beautyrest mattresses**
- Each room is fully secured with separate dead-bolt and door viewer
- **Whirlpool and fitness room**
- Voice mail
- **Pet Friendly rooms available**
- **Coin-op laundry** and same day Valet dry cleaning service.

Ask for the Aboriginal Peoples rate!!!!!!

HOLIDAY INN NORTH VANCOUVER  
 700 Old Lillooet Road  
 North Vancouver BC, V7J 2H5

Reservations - 604. 985-3111  
 Fax - 604.985-0857

<http://www.hinorthvancouver.com/index.html>

**\$149.00 – 199.00**

Features:

- ❖ microwaves and mini-fridges.
- ❖ Deluxe rooms and suites offer full kitchenettes which are ideal for your extended stays.
- ❖ indoor pool, sauna, Jacuzzi
- ❖ Pantry restaurant

Quote Government Rate for Elders Gathering Discount!!!!!!

*The Following do not have discount rate as of yet*

Sunset Inn  
 1111 Burnaby St  
 Vancouver BC, V6E 1P4

Reservations - 604.688.2474  
 Fax - 604.669.3340

[www.sunsetinn.com/index.php](http://www.sunsetinn.com/index.php)

**\$ 189.00~259.00**

Features:

- Suites with separate bedrooms
- Fully equipped kitchens
- King and queen beds
- Free wireless high-speed Internet access
- Private balconies
- Partial views of English Bay or views of Vancouver's skyline & mountains
- Hairdryers
- Daily housekeeping
- Cable TV
- Wake-up calls
- Tea & coffee in all executive suites
- Iron and ironing board
- FREE hotel parking (gated and secure)
- 24-hour self-serve laundry facilities with free soap
- Exercise room
- Complimentary fresh coffee & cookies in lobby

DAYS INN VANCOUVER DOWNTOWN HOTEL

921 West Pender Street

Vancouver BC, V6C 1M2

Reservations - 1.877.681.4335

Fax - 604.681.7808

[www.daysinnvancouver.com/](http://www.daysinnvancouver.com/)

**\$ 206.00**

Features:

- Complimentary shuttle service within downtown area (**drop-off only 7am-7pm**)
- Complimentary Valet/ Parking charge **\$15.00** incl. tax per day with unlimited in-out privileges. 7am-11pm **Note: Parking not available for over-height vehicles 6'6"**
- Complimentary daily newspapers
- Complimentary high speed G Wireless Internet
- Complimentary in-room coffee/tea
- Complimentary in-room bottled water
- Interior corridors
- Guest laundry facilities
- Daily dry-cleaning
- Ice / vending machines
- All non-smoking rooms and floors
- Chelsea Restaurant & Lounge

**Dear Elders and Workers,**

**The deadline has been extended for the Transportation program below to June 15<sup>th</sup> 2007 because their 2007 application form is not done yet. I printed this one off the Internet for you and even though it is the 2006 form you can still use it to apply. All the best, Donna Stirling**

## **Elders Transportation Program**

### **2006 Application Form**

**Applications will be accepted between April 1<sup>st</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup> 2006**

#### **Objective**

*To provide partial funding to Elders for travel costs related to heritage, cultural and educational workshops and conferences. 25 individual grants are available (up to a maximum of \$1,000 each).*

#### **Eligibility**

1. Applicants are an Aboriginal Elder or a recognized Aboriginal organization on behalf of Elders.
2. Travel is within British Columbia.
3. Travel distance to the event is greater than 200 kilometers (one way, road distance only).
4. Applicants complete the attached application form and include a letter explaining the request for funding and a conference/workshop/event agenda.
5. Eligible travel costs are as follows: travel (including mileage, vehicle rental, ferry, airfare, bus, rail, etc.), meals, accommodation and other related travel expenses such as parking or taxi. (Please note travel costs will be reimbursed at the provincial government group II allowable travel expense rates and travel must be by the most economical means. Rates are included on this application form.)
6. Applicants who have received an Elders Transportation grant in the previous two consecutive years are ineligible to apply this year and may apply again next year.

#### **General Program Conditions**

1. Applications must be accompanied by:
  - a brief cover letter outlining financial need AND
  - an agenda of the conference/workshop/event.
2. Applicants are eligible to receive funding up to a maximum of \$1,000. Applications will be reviewed by a subcommittee and approved for funding based on factors including: distance away from the event, overall travel costs, regional representation and event representation.
3. Only one application per fiscal year per organization or community will be approved.
4. Applicants will not be reimbursed for actual travel expenses that exceed the projected amount.
5. The BCAAFC is not responsible for any expenses incurred prior to the applicant receiving a written confirmation of approval.
6. Previous Elders Transportation or other provincial grants to the applicant and/or Aboriginal Organization must be accounted for or the applicant may be ineligible for funding.

#### **Deadline for Applications**

Applications for Elders Transportation assistance will be accepted between **April 1<sup>st</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup> 2006** (Please note completed applications that are not received 60 days before the date of travel to the conference or workshop cannot be guaranteed of receiving funding prior to travel.)

#### **After the conference**

Funding recipients must submit a report within 30 days of travel to the BCAAFC. The report must include:

- A brief statement or narrative summary including a list of names of those who attended the event AND
- A financial summary of actual travel costs pertaining to the Elders Transportation Program.

(Please note if actual travel expenses are less than the amount advanced, the difference must be repaid.)

#### **Submit applications to:**

**Attn: First Citizens Fund Administrator  
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres  
#200 - 506 Fort St  
Victoria, BC V8W 1E6  
Phone: (250) 388-5522  
Fax: (250) 388-5502**

**B.C Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres**  
**First Citizens Fund**  
**Elders Transportation Program 2007 Application Form**

Complete All Sections of this Application

**A. Contact Information**

*Office Use Only*

1. Elder's Organization/Band: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Region:

[1 Vancouver Island/Coast](#)

[2 Mainland/Southwest](#)

[3 Thompson/Okanagan](#)

[4 Kootenay](#)

[5 Cariboo](#)

[6 North Coast](#)

[7 Nechako](#)

[8 Northeast](#)

Please visit this website to view regions in BC: <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/maps/dmap.htm>

4. Name of Contact Person for this Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (business) \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Number of Elders Requesting Transportation Assistance: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Travel Information**

6. Point of Origin: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Destination: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Distance one-way (according to Tourism BC Road Map): \_\_\_\_\_ km

9. Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Supporting Documentation**

10. Applications must be accompanied by:

- a brief cover letter outlining financial need AND
- an agenda of the conference/workshop.

## D. Financial Information

| <b>ELDERS BUDGET</b> Please complete the total budget for Elders' travel to the conference/workshop/event and estimated or actual revenue. Provincial government group II allowable travel rates have been included here for convenience. |                     |                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                     |                                             |
| <i>First Citizens Fund Elders Transportation Program</i>                                                                                                                                                                                  |                     | \$1,000.00                                  |
| (*list other sources)                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                     | \$                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                     | \$                                          |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                     | <b>\$</b>                                   |
| <b>Planned Expenses</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Total Budget</b> | <b>Revenue</b><br>(include source as above) |
| *Note travel costs are eligible one way only                                                                                                                                                                                              |                     |                                             |
| <b>VEHICLE RENTAL COSTS:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                     |                                             |
| Name Rental Company:                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                     |                                             |
| Total rental \$ _____ x _____ (#days)                                                                                                                                                                                                     | \$                  | \$                                          |
| Mileage # _____ x \$0.44/km                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$                  | \$                                          |
| <b>WATER TRANSPORTATION COSTS:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                     |                                             |
| Ferry from: _____ to: _____                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                     |                                             |
| Fare per vehicle/driver _____ x _____ #Vehicles                                                                                                                                                                                           | \$                  | \$                                          |
| # passengers _____ x _____ (Fare)                                                                                                                                                                                                         | \$                  | \$                                          |
| <b>MEALS</b> (Up to \$44.50/day per person)                                                                                                                                                                                               |                     |                                             |
| # Elders _____ x _____ # days x \$44.50                                                                                                                                                                                                   | \$                  | \$                                          |
| <b>ACCOMMODATION</b> (Hotel-up to \$115/day per person) Base on double occupancy                                                                                                                                                          |                     |                                             |
| # Elders _____ x _____ # nights x \$115.00                                                                                                                                                                                                | \$                  | \$                                          |
| <b>OTHER COSTS:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                     |                                             |
| Caregiver                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | \$                  | \$                                          |
| Driver                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | \$                  | \$                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | \$                  | \$                                          |
| <b>TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES AND REVENUE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>\$</b>           | <b>\$</b>                                   |

## E. FOLLOW UP REPORT

Final report to be submitted within 30 days of travel. Report to include:

- Narrative summary and list of names of those who attended the event AND
- Financial summary

Please remit the above to the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres at the following address:

Attn: First Citizens Fund Administrator  
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres  
#200 - 506 Fort St Victoria, BC V8W 1E6

**Phone:** (250) 388-5522  
**Fax:** (250) 388-5502

---

---

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all information in this application is correct and in accordance with the policy of the Elders Transportation Program. I agree to inform the **B.C Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres** of any changes in the travel information given.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Authorized Person*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Witness*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*





**Union of  
British Columbia  
Indian Chiefs**

Vancouver Office:  
500 - 342 Water Street,  
Vancouver, BC V6B 1B6  
Tel: 604-684-0231, Fax: 604-684-5726  
www.ubcic.bc.ca



**FIRST  
NATIONS  
SUMMIT**

1200 - 100 Park Royal South  
West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2  
Tel: 604-926-9903, Fax: 604-926-9923  
Toll Free: 1-866-990-9939  
www.fns.bc.ca



**British Columbia  
Assembly of  
First Nations**

605 - 100 Park Royal South  
West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2  
Tel: 604-922-7733  
Fax: 604-922-7433  
www.bcafn.ca

## First Nations Leadership Council

### INFORMATION BULLETIN

#### Leadership Accord

On March 17, 2005, the Regional Chief of the BC Assembly of First Nations, the Task Group of the First Nations Summit, and the political executive of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs signed the *Leadership Accord*.

The purpose of the Accord is to: affirm mutual respect; formalize a cooperative working relationship to politically represent the interests of First Nations in BC and develop strategies and actions to bring about significant and substantive changes to government policy that will benefit all First Nations in BC; and focus on a range of issues and initiatives of common interest or concern among First Nations in BC, including consultation and accommodation, national processes, and social and economic program and service issues.

Work under the Leadership Accord is guided by the following principles:

- The Parties recognize and respect each other's respective mandate;
- The Parties will be mindful that they each represent a diversity of perspectives on issues relating to Aboriginal title, rights and interests;
- The Parties commit to work to advance the interests of First Nations in political level discussions amongst themselves and with governments;
- The Parties will represent their respective memberships in any discussions that directly involve government and industry.

Through the Accord, the Parties commit to engage in an ongoing process of dialogue through regular leadership meetings to achieve the purposes of this Accord and, where possible, develop common understandings, strategies and/or positions on identified issues of

mutual concern or priority. The Parties also agree to establish working groups on identified issues of concern or priority to advance those issues politically.

The relationship established through the *Leadership Accord* remains strong. Although some successes have been achieved (New Relationship, Transformative Change Accord, New Relationship Trust, others), much remains to be done. The mandate of the First Nations Leadership Council is determined only through the mandates of each of its participating organizations – the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit, and Union of BC Indian Chiefs – as established via resolution of their respective memberships.

The First Nations Leadership Council is a political process, not a new organization. Its purpose is to generate political power through cooperation and collaboration between the existing provincial First Nations organizations.

The First Nations Leadership Council does not have its own staff members – the staff of the three participating organizations are responsible for following up on resolutions passed at the assemblies of the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs, and work together on issues for which all three organizations have a mandate.

The BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs are committed to maintaining unity on matters of common concern to benefit all BC First Nations, as well as to autonomy of each organization in achieving progress on issues specific to their respective memberships.

#### New Relationship

There are five key priorities under the New Relationship: Legislation, Policy and a Cultural Shift in

Government; Consultation and Accommodation; Ecosystem Stewardship Planning (Land Use Planning); Shared Decision-Making; and Revenue and Benefit Sharing.

Short-term deliverables targeted by the FNLC include: A recognition mechanism; improvements to the Environmental Assessment Process; Heritage Conservation Act review and amendment; Education Forum; Ecosystem Stewardship Planning Protocol; and a Gaming Revenue-Sharing Agreement.

For three days out of each month, the FNLC meets with provincial officials to set direction, review progress and have high-level discussion on these five priorities. Technical work is mainly achieved through joint working groups.

### **Transformative Change Accord**

Work continues between the FNLC and the province to develop a draft implementation strategy for the Transformative Change Accord. The health plan has been released, and the other sections will soon be ready to distribute to First Nations for comment and advice.

It is hoped that Canada will fulfill its commitments under the Transformative Change Accord, and engage with the FNLC and BC to develop the 10-year plan to improve the quality of life for First Nations in BC – including reconciling title and rights and building a new relationship based on recognition.

### **Fisheries**

A Joint First Nations-Federal Government Fisheries Forum was held on March 5-6, 2007. The purpose of the Forum was to present the BC First Nations Fisheries Action Plan – which was developed and endorsed by BC First Nations – to governments.

A key item in the Action Plan is the establishment of a BC First Nations Fisheries Council. The FNLC has been mandated, through resolution, to hold one or more province-wide

meetings, open to all BC First Nations, to develop the First Nations Fisheries Council concept. A draft framework for this new Council is to be presented to First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs assemblies in June. If you have any ideas for the First Nations Fisheries Council, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### **Energy Summit**

On April 2-4, 2007, the FNLC and the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council hosted a province-wide First Nations Energy Summit at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre in North Vancouver.

This Summit provided a forum for dialogue with government and industry on renewable and nonrenewable energy issues and opportunities. Guest speakers included environmentalist and climate change expert Dr. David Suzuki, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Richard Neufeld, and United States Consul General Lewis Lukens.

During the Summit, First Nations delegates developed a BC First Nations Energy Action Plan to address energy sector issues. This Action Plan was faxed to all BC First Nations, with an invitation for further feedback. All feedback will be incorporated, and a final version of the Action Plan will be presented at upcoming First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs assemblies, and will be considered for approval via resolution. Please contact us if you did not receive a copy of the BC First Nations Energy Action Plan.

### **Art Contest**

The FNLC and the Provincial Health Officer are hosting an art contest for the cover design and inside pages of the next Report on Health and well-being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia due for release in November 2007.

This contest is open to all Aboriginal students who are attending school in British Columbia. The winner of the

contest will receive \$500 and an additional \$500 for the school that they are attending.

Technical requirements:

- Maximum size: 11x17
- Art work can be submitted in traditional or digital form
  - Traditional: Artwork can be on any surface with any medium. Use a fixative if you use chalk, pencil or pastel to avoid smudge or distortion.
  - Digital: All digital art must be submitted in high resolution (300 pixels per inch). The final digital file formats should be submitted in EPS, TIFF, JPEG (high resolution) or Photoshop (psd).

**Deadline for submission: July 31, 2007.** Please direct submissions or any questions to any of the BCAFN, FNS or UBCIC.

### **Health**

On November 27, 2006, the FNLC, Government of Canada and Province of British Columbia signed a First Nations Health Plan Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), and the FNLC and BC released a BC First Nations Health Plan. These two agreements are designed to close the gaps in health outcomes that exist between First Nations and other British Columbians. For copies of the MoU and Health Plan, please visit [www.bcafn.ca](http://www.bcafn.ca); [www.fns.bc.ca](http://www.fns.bc.ca); [www.ubcic.bc.ca](http://www.ubcic.bc.ca).

A province-wide First Nations Health Forum was held on April 11-12 in Vancouver to discuss these two important agreements. The FNLC, BC and Canada received excellent advice from the health professionals and First Nations on the implementation of the agreements, and on a communications strategy with First Nations communities.

During the First Nations Health Forum, two important announcements were made. First, Premier Gordon Campbell announced the transfer of \$9.5 million to the FNLC to begin the work

of implementing the 29 action items in the First Nations Health Plan. This funding is for year one of the 10-year plan. The FNLC will work with the BC First Nations Health Council and staff to develop a budget for this year one funding, and will share information at upcoming assemblies.

Second, the appointment of Dr. Evan Adams as the Aboriginal Provincial Health Officer was announced. Dr. Adams will work with both the province and the FNLC to implement the First Nations Health Plan and the First Nations Health Plan MoU. We look forward to working closely with Dr. Adams and welcome his appointment.

Based on the advice provided to us at the First Nations Health Forum, the FNLC and the First Nations Health Council will work to finalize the tripartite First Nations Health Plan committed to in the MoU, and will develop detailed workplans for each of the action items. We will also develop a communications strategy to ensure that all BC First Nations communities are involved in this important work.

### Justice Forum

At the BC Regional Chiefs' Special Assembly In October 2005, the Chiefs in Assembly passed resolution 13/2005, which addressed concerns about the relationship between the administration of justice in BC, the legitimate aspirations of First Nations Peoples towards greater self-government, and the overall well being of First Nation communities. The BC Chiefs in Assembly requested that the Provincial Ministry of Attorney General, Federal Department of Justice and Corrections Canada and other appropriate government agencies sponsor a Provincial Aboriginal Justice Forum.

The Forum goals include:

1. Bringing together key stakeholders from Aboriginal, Criminal Justice and Government organizations to facilitate discussions on key policy and legislation reform

2. A report with options and recommendations to improve the relationship between BC First Nations and the criminal justice system. This report will provide direction for the development of a strategy for justice reform and governance structures that recognize the inherent right to self-government and administration over issues impacting First Nations Peoples across BC; and
3. Establishing stronger linkages between BC Aboriginal Justice Services and Programs within our communities and government.

The BC First Nations Justice Forum will take place on May 14-16, 2007, at the Coast Plaza Hotel and Suites located at 1763 Comox St. in Vancouver, BC. Registration is now underway and is open to all who wish to participate. For more information on the forum go to [www.vigold.ca/justice](http://www.vigold.ca/justice), or contact the BCAFN office at 604-922-7733.

### FNLC Meeting Notes

At the recommendation of First Nations, this section of the information bulletin is to describe discussion and meetings of the FNLC.

- A joint FNLC-BC Recognition Working Group is meeting regularly to produce a draft consultation and accommodation framework, among other recognition-related tasks.
- A joint FNLC-BC Legislative Murals Working Group has been formed to follow up on the Throne Speech commitment to replace the artwork in the rotunda of the Legislature.
- A joint FNLC-BC Working Group has been struck to engage in discussions on ecosystem stewardship planning / land use

planning with the provincial government

- A joint FNLC-BC working group on the *Heritage Conservation Act* has been struck to make recommendations on amendments to the legislation
- Two video pilot projects have been produced to improve public awareness about First Nations and the New Relationship
- FNLC working with BC to develop and introduce a new internship program for First Nations youth in the spring
- A comprehensive study on the status of First Nations and Aboriginal housing in BC is being conducted to assist in developing the Transformative Change Accord implementation strategy.

### Calendar of Events

- **May 14-16:** First Nations Justice Forum (Coast Plaza Hotel, Vancouver)
- **June 12-14:** First Nations Summit Meeting (New Aiyansh)

*The First Nations Leadership Council is comprised of the political executives of the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs:*

- *BC Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief A-in-chut, Shawn Atleo;*
- *First Nations Summit Task Group members Grand Chief Edward John, Chief Judith Sayers, Dave Porter;*
- *Union of BC Indian Chiefs President Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, Vice-President Chief Robert Shintah; Chief Lynda Price*

*The Council works together to politically represent the interests of First Nations in British Columbia and develop strategies and actions to bring about significant and substantive changes to government policy that will benefit all First Nations in British Columbia.*

# **Special Congratulations go out today to the B.C. WINNERS of the 2007 National Aboriginal Achievement Awards**

## **Education**

### **Joe Michel**

#### **Secwepemc, Shuswap - Adams Lake Indian Band, BC**

It was a beloved matriarch elder who encouraged Joe to complete high school and continue onto post secondary education instead of continuing to work at his summer job at the local sawmill. It was a good thing he listened because Michel became one of the most outspoken advocates and leaders on Aboriginal education in the country.

As one of the first graduates of a residential school in the west, Michel got his degrees through summer school over many years enabling him to keep abreast of education developments of the time. Michel was able to spend time playing a major role later in life working at his lifelong passion to maintain the Secwepemc language, playing a major role in its revival.

He is a cultural savior and language activist who is retired from education but continues to educate. He mentors students and teachers throughout BC, contributes to Secwepemc language curriculum and is actively involved as an elected member of Band Council. He is busier now in retirement, as a mentor, statesman, elder and parent within his community, than he ever was.

Michel contends that Aboriginal control of education is important because the strength of Native people is in the language and traditional values. "We have to relearn how to learn," he says. Incorporating western education with traditional values is the key, both feet firmly planted in two worlds. With this, Michel believes Aboriginal people will be the educators of their own history and leaders of their own destiny.

## **Law and Justice**

### **Hugh Braker**

#### **Tseshaht First Nation, Nuuchahnulth, Vancouver Island**

With healthy youth, the original people of North America will have a healthy future. And that's something Hugh Braker is doing one child at a time.

One of his law firm's major interests is Aboriginal child welfare law while litigating for aboriginal rights has been the major issue his progressive law firm has been concentrating on.

Braker's interest in the justice system started when he was a child when Aboriginal people didn't have the right to vote. Braker remembers the injustices committed on the people in his Nuuchahnulth community, and he dreamed of correcting the situation any way he could.

He excelled in law school, moving directly into the thick of it as Director of Self-Government with the Assembly of First Nations. He was the first male Nuu Chah Nulth lawyer in the country and the first BC First Nations lawyer to be made a Queen's Counsel (Q.C.)

He moved back to his community and worked as staff lawyer for the tribal council for almost 10 years litigating and negotiating fishing and hunting rights and aboriginal child welfare instituting stronger family welfare and adoption practices. He opened his own practice in 1989 and continues to take great pride in volunteering as president of the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC for 20 years.

Braker grew up with strong ties to his community. He believes Aboriginal values are distinct from non-Aboriginal values and as an Aboriginal lawyer, his focus is on the community at large. His clients see him as an Aboriginal person first who cares about his community and its future. Braker considers it his responsibility to see that children grow up safely, so he helped design customized contemporary justice methods that incorporate traditional belief systems. Braker is building a stronger community for all of us, one child at a time.

## **Environment**

### **Chief David Walkem Cook's Ferry Indian Band, BC**

**Chief David Walkem** is a forester who builds bridges. He is a protector of environment and an advocate for using traditional ecological knowledge in the co-management of our eco-systems. Chief Walkem understands that the eco-systems are valuable tools for Aboriginal people providing an important connection to our traditions, language and identity.

Chief Walkem builds communication bridges with developers and forestry companies that allow Aboriginal people to benefit from the business of forestry but also allow the land to regenerate and renew. It's a tenuous balance, but Chief Walkem has been doing it for the better part of his life, actually becoming the first Native person in BC to achieve the designation of a forester.

He didn't stop there. He was raised by a family of Native leaders who instilled in him the concepts of respectful negotiations, advocacy and his traditional teachings. Getting a Masters of Business Administration he knew full well the need for a Native person to sit at the negotiating tables with the forestry companies and federal and provincial governments. He established mechanisms that address Aboriginal values and interests in the land, working to create a resource co-management system that puts the control into the hands of the First Nations.

He is a force to be reckoned with in the forestry industry. Whether he is building bridges in the industry, encouraging First Nation youth to pursue careers in environment or advocating for First Nation rights, he hopes to leave a legacy that stands as tall and strong as the BC forests he fights so hard to protect.

**This information is from the National Aboriginal Awards website [www.naaf.ca](http://www.naaf.ca)**

This is Kukpi7 Wayne Christian from the Splatsin community, in the southern Secwepemc territory. I am writing to let you know about a really important issue which will affect our food sources (salmon and berries) and our medicines. And, also how the BC government is changing BC Hydro, a public utility to a private company and this is directly related to this issue. In the long run, this will have a GREAT IMPACT on the Indigenous peoples of the province. I will list some of the things which have already happened. The government is changing things very quickly and our people are not aware of how it will affect us.

### **THE ISSUE: PRIVATIZATION OF WATER & WHAT IT MEANS TO INDIAN PEOPLE AND OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS**

- For 6 years the current BC government has been doing “secret” and “underhanded” deals to take away control from the people (both Native & non-Native). In Indian country, we are used to it but the people who live in the municipalities, cities, and rural areas who are our neighbors are now getting the same treatment and they’re beginning to see how the government is taking away their ability of have any say in their local regions.

#### **TIME LINE:**

- 2002 BC Energy Plan privatizes 1000 rivers in BC;
- 2003 Accenture corporation set up in BC where financial control of BC Hydro shifts to private hands;
- 2003 Energy & Mines Act changed to make secret the relationship with Accenture;
- 2003 Energy Purchase Contracts issued to private corporations;
- 2003 BILL 40 legislated – gives private corporations the right to export BC energy;
- 2004 BC Transmission Corporation is set up to regulate energy in “new ways”
- May 2006 – BILL 30 removes citizen’s rights to local control of rivers;
- October 2006 – Union of BC Municipalities vote unanimously against Bill 30 at their AGM;
- 2007 update on BC Energy Plan – no limit, no quota on number of rivers that can be transferred to private ownership;
- On April 2-4, 2007 there was an Energy Summit at the Squamish Nation that was hosted by the Leadership Council (the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, the First Nations Summit and the Regional AFN Office) and the BC government. At this meeting they are bringing in pretty high level people, i.e. the United States Consular General Lewis Lukens and David Suzuki.
- You can bet they’re making deals behind closed doors & selling licenses to our water & wind resources with some First Nations groups who may or may not know how it will affect our future generations.
- The scariest part of all this, is that the private power licenses give them (private companies) a “**right to own and occupy**” the lands and we have to get the attention of all the political organizations, both Native and non-Native to work together on this.

### **NOBODY IS TALKING ABOUT HOW THIS WILL AFFECT OUR FOOD AND MEDICINES & OUR ABORIGINAL RIGHT & TITLE TO THE LANDS OF B.C.**

And, because of this, it is important that we all work together to **GET THEM TO STOP SELLING LICENSES** – at least until all the people know what is going on.

It is the people at the **GRASSROOTS LEVEL & BC CITIZENS** working together who will **STOP THIS** – our future generations are depending on us.

We made a dvd where I am talking to Professor John Calvert from Simon Fraser University, Gwen Barlee from the Western Canada Wilderness Committee and Tom Rankin, a rancher from Squamish and you can get a copy of this if you want. Or if somebody in your community has a computer you can go look at it at [www.ourrivers.ca](http://www.ourrivers.ca)

Please take the time to look at this 15 minute video on the internet and ask your Chief about it. Circulate it because it contains information that is critical to **ALL OF OUR PEOPLE** – In this dvd, you will see Native and non-Native people coming together around “**the Privatization of Water Licenses**” and how BC Hydro is changing from a public utility to a private corporation.

To get a copy of the dvd, you can email: [bandtogethernow@yahoo.ca](mailto:bandtogethernow@yahoo.ca) and they will send you a copy OR you can phone (604) 251-0905 and give them your address and they will send you a copy.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Chief Wayne M. Christian, Splatsin-Secwepemc, Co-chair Shuswap Nation Tribal Council

## BC First Nations Justice Forum

Dates: May 14 – 16, 2007 Location: Coast Plaza Hotel & Suites 1763 Comox Street, Vancouver BC



The BC First Nations Leadership Council invites you to the:  
BC FIRST NATIONS JUSTICE FORUM

Dates: May 14 – 16, 2007

Location: Coast Plaza Hotel & Suites  
1763 Comox Street, Vancouver BC

At the BC Regional Chiefs' Special Assembly In October 2005, the Chiefs in Assembly passed resolution 13/2005, which addressed concerns about the relationship between the administration of justice in BC, the legitimate aspirations of First Nations Peoples towards greater self-government, and the overall well being of First Nation communities. The BC Chiefs in Assembly requested that the Provincial Ministry of Attorney General, Federal Department of Justice and Corrections Canada and other appropriate government agencies sponsor a Provincial Aboriginal Justice Forum.

The Forum goals include:

- Bringing together key stakeholders from Aboriginal, Criminal Justice and Government organizations to facilitate discussions on key policy and legislation reform initiatives that impact BC First Nations Peoples;
- A report with options and recommendations to improve the relationship between BC First Nations and the criminal justice system. This report will provide direction for the development of a strategy for justice reform and governance structures that recognize the inherent right to self-government and administration over issues impacting First Nations Peoples across BC; and
- Establishing stronger linkages between BC Aboriginal Justice Services and Programs within our communities and government.

I look forward to seeing you at this upcoming forum. If you have any further questions please contact the BCAFN office at 604-922-7733 or the Travel Coordination office at 250-756-0855. Please check the BCAFN website at [www.bcafn.ca](http://www.bcafn.ca) or the Justice Forum website directly [www.vigold.ca/justice](http://www.vigold.ca/justice) for updated information as it becomes available.

Chu, Kleco,

On behalf of the BC Assembly of First Nations:  
A-in-chut (Shawn Atleo), BC Regional Chief

**BC ELDERS  
COMMUNICATION  
CENTER SOCIETY**

**1415 Wewaikum Road  
Campbell River, B.C. V9W 5W9**

**Phone: 1-250-286-9977  
Fax: 1-250-286-4809  
Toll-Free: 1-877-738-7288  
Coordinator: Donna Stirling  
Website: [www.bcelders.com](http://www.bcelders.com)  
Email:  
[bcelders@telus.net](mailto:bcelders@telus.net)**

**'ELDERS VOICE' ISSUES  
ARE SENT OUT TO  
COMMUNITIES BY THE  
1st OF EACH MONTH.**

**If your area's copy is not re-  
ceived in a timely manner  
please call in to the office.**

*Zen Sarcasm from [humourmatters.com](http://humourmatters.com).*

1. Duct tape is like 'The Force'. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together.
2. A closed mouth gathers no foot.
3. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket.

***PROVERBS:***

The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.  
The Devil finds work for idle hands to do.  
Procrastination is the thief of time.  
Power corrupts: Absolute power corrupts absolutely.

***BIBLE QUOTES:***

"Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the Lord is a God who knows, and by Him deeds are weighed." 1 Samuel 2:3  
"The start of an argument is like the first break in a dam; stop it before it goes any further." Proverbs 17:14

***Please mail, fax, email, or call in your  
Special Wishes/Community Events !!***

**Happy! Happy! Birthday To All Elders Born in May!!**

***Taurus April 20th - May 20th***

***Ruled by Venus, the goddess of love, creative Taureans are known for their persistence in the face of obstacles. Difficult to frighten or hustle, those born under this Earth sign prefer an orderly routine. They are patient and rarely lose their temper, but when they do — watch out! Although family oriented and happy doing things for others, they can be as obstinate as a bull!***

**National Survivors Support Line**

24 Hours a day - 7 days a week - 1-866-925-4419

The Indian Residential School Survivors Society provides free, immediate, confidential, non-judgmental, support for residential school survivors across Canada.

**ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING INFORMATION CORNER**

**31st Annual BC Elders Gathering**

**Dates: August 8th and 9th, 2007 at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre and  
August 10th, 2007 at the Capilano Reserve**

**Contact Info:**

**For questions on Registration, Vendor Booths, and Info Booths call Damara at 1-877-628-2288  
For questions about Volunteering, Donating, and general inquiries please call Touch of Culture at 1-866-980-2443.**