

Texelc

{WILLIAMS LAKE INDIAN BAND (WLIB)}

Williams Lake, "BC"

******* The largest economic industry in our traditional territories *******

Texelc Fibre Harvesting : A Brief Chronology 1997 => 2001

OTHER FIBRE SITUATIONS ARE INCLUDED TO STRONGLY ADVOCATE IN FAVOR OF STUMPAGE FREE HARVESTING

- 10/23/97** - Meeting at Cariboo Tribal Council (CTC). Minister Zirnhelt is requested, in writing, to supply 50-60,000 m³ of fibre tenure to the Williams Lake Indian Band as well as same amount to other 3 DIA Bands in CTC. (BC^TC Interim Measures)
- Minister Zirnhelt reiterates age old MOF "No wood (tenure) for you!" rhetoric.
- Minister Zirnhelt can only continue Natural Resources Worker Funding (@ +/- \$50,000/yr).
- 11/28/97** - Williams Lake Indian Band was funded \$40,700 by FRBC to complete the forest sector economic development plan.
- 02/98** - Secwepemc Nation Forestry Resolution (Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC) issue)
- 02/11/98** - Legal opinion from Interior Alliance's Legal Council Mandell & Pinder, Q.C., => SNTC.
Re: Delgamuukw and house logs in Secwepemc territory!
- 03/98** - FRBC's \$40,700 Forestry slush fund for Brian McNaughton (X-MOF District Manager, Williams Lake Forest District and now WLIB forestry consultant) and Dancing Water Sandy's unilateral "6 WLIB Forest Priorities":
Most Feasible Forestry Business #1 - Truck Shop.
Most Feasible Forestry Business #2 - Native Arts Wood Crafts / Nature Shop.
Most Feasible Forestry Business #3 - Log Home Finishing and Home Construction.
- Absolutely no formal WLIB community consultation for this \$40,700 FRBC process.
- 03/10/98** - Shuswap Nation Forestry Policy Meeting at SNTC boardroom.
- Discussion revolved around Stumpage-Free Sovereign Fibre Harvesting - Mi'kmaq style!
- 04/23/98** - Borland Creek Logging Ltd.'s (WLIB owned corporation) final submission for Forest Licence A51220. This forest licence is for 75,000 m³ over 5 years. BCL also had the option to harvest half of this volume in the first year!
- Summer 1998** - Thomas Peter Paul's provincial court ruling concerning stumpage-free sovereign logging in New Brunswick on October 28, 1997 unleashes province wide stumpage-free harvesting in New Brunswick which includes the whole province and affects the surrounding areas of the Gaspe Peninsula and Nova Scotia.
- 08/17/98** - Community of Listaguj, Que. ends 6 week blockade over stumpage free harvesting.
- 09/10/98** - Arrests in Salmon River (near Harcourt, New Brunswick). Mainly Big Cove Harvesters involved in this dispute. Many Mi'kmaq maintain these harvesters are illegally arrested for exercising inherent natural rights. Rights which are even reaffirmed in numerous 18th century Mi'kmaq & British Crown treaties which have never been repealed. Treaty of 1752 is a primary example!
- 01/07/99** - The Cariboo Tribal Council 'Treaty' Society (OF WHICH THE WLIB C/C IS A PART OF) is put on notice through their *Lands and Resources Working Group* that members of the Williams Lake Indian Band will be commencing stumpage free sovereign selective harvesting after the effort is made to entertain Shuswap DIA groups whose interests are affected.
- 03/30/99** - Interior Six Nations Alliance (of which the southern Shuswap DIA bands are a part of) hosts a forestry conference in Chase, BC. Representatives of the Forest Ministry (District Managers), Industry (Operations Managers), Special Interest Groups (ILMA) and Native Indian Bands (Chiefs & Councils), all of whom reside in the traditional territories of the six nations, converge on Quaaot Lodge to begin to identify and implement/remove "opportunities and constraints in a non-treaty atmosphere".
- 04/08/99** - Original Secwepemc Nation Fibre Harvesting Resolution is hand delivered to the discussion table of the Shuswap Unity Meeting in the DIA established Indian Act Shuswap Reserve of the North Thompson Indian Band. By their own admissions, the SNTC contends a vision was conceived for a Shuswap Nation Forestry Task Force at same said meeting.
- 06/11/99** - Indian Act established community of Neskonlith holds Shuswap Unity Meeting. Shuswap DIA chiefs are publicly requested to endorse April 08, 1999, Secwepemc Nation Fibre Harvesting Resolution. Some chiefs attempt to distance themselves from stumpage free logging by attempting to take it back to their communities. This was videotaped.
- 06/17/99** - First Nations Summit quarterly "treaty" meeting held in Prince George is presented with 300 fluorescent YELLOW copies of April 08, 1999 Secwepemc Nation Fibre Harvesting Resolution.
- 07/07/99** - WLIB councillor Tom Alphonse sends written notice to Horsefly Forest District asking for no stumpage on Borland Creek Logging's 75,000 m³ Forest Licence A51220. FL A51220 is consequently in the Quesnel Forest District.

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- 07/22/99 -Assembly of First Nations passes Resolution # 44/99 endorsing harvesting for Westbank Indian Band.
- 08/25/99 -WLIB's Borland Creek Logging Ltd.'s Manager Trainee releases comprehensive in-depth report of Borland Creek Logging Ltd.'s past, current and anticipated forestry activities. This document should set the standard for any future reports.
- 09/09/99 -(SNTC Boredroom) Interior Alliance addressal of Westbank Indian Band's recent harvesting activities.
- 09/26/99 -SNTC DIA Chiefs *collectively* sign off on a clear-cut harvesting permit authorizing incompetent Shuswap CLEARCUT forest use and management. No legal timeline is revealed. All factors indicate 7-10 year coordinated SNTC/CTC/NDP&LIBERAL/RCMP/BCTV legal road to "BC" Supreme Court. Double this time to Supreme Court of Canada?
- 12/05/99 -First Nations Summit meeting in Musquem Indian Band receives, by hand, 300 copies of Secwepemc Nation Members' plan to selectively harvest 67,000 m³ of wood. This document was not even acknowledged. Dates of implementation for this plan were July 09, 2000 - March 09, 2001. This is still the target of Texelc harvesters.
- 01/27/00 - Community acknowledged Texelc Hereditary Chief Jake Thomas gives written authorization to experienced harvesters to commence selective harvesting of fibre resources well within his traditional territory.
- 02/01/00 -Interior Alliance meeting in SNTC Boredroom. This table was informed that Texelc members were going to begin Sovereign harvesting of fibre resources well within Secwepemc territory. Spokesman Art Manuel interjects and opposes entertaining any discussion of said harvesting. "Come back tomorrow to the Shuswap chiefs meeting and we will discuss it at a Shuswap Nation level" is his only defective rhetoric. This was videotaped.
- 02/02/00 -SNTC Boredroom. Shuswap DIA chiefs Art Manuel, Nathan Matthews, Ron Ignace, Richard Lebourdias, Rose Haller all refuse to sign the April 08, 1999 Resolution. The chiefs also indicate that "*their plates are too full*" at this time to undertake any other actions which are not already part of their phantom DIA agenda's. Although there still is no public Harper Lake Legal / Harvesting plan, they still wanted to see Jake Thomas' plan. This was videotaped.
- 03/06/00 -Since 01/07/99, after 1 year of "frustration", Secwepemc Nation members commence selective-harvesting of fibre resources well within Jake's traditional territories @ 68 Km of the Red Lake Road. This is 50 miles east of Williams Lake.
- 03/08/00 -Shuswap Nation Tribal Council and Williams Lake Indian Band Chief and Council both issue press releases disowning and condemning Secwepemc Nation members who went through all distinguishable channels requesting authorization at a nation level to harvest fibre to build houses for their young families and other nation members. SNTC and WLIB both claimed not to know what this was about at the time. www.shuswap.org/Press%20Releases/Mar08.htm
- 03/08/00 -First Nations Summit receives by hand 300 RED copies of March 06, 2000 press release. On the back of this release is January 05, 2000 correspondence from Mandell & Pinder Q.C., sent to the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council concerning legal developments with Harper Lake.
- 03/09/00 -Williams Lake Tribune front-page article "TIMBER HARVEST UNAUTHORIZED".
"They are not breaking the law!" - Williams Lake RCMP / CTC / WLIB puppet constable Bruce Coles.
- 04/25/00 -Cariboo Tribal Council "Treaty" Society side table meeting in WLIB gymnasium. NDP MLA (Cariboo South) David Zirnhelt in attendance. Dave refuses to agree to economic ramping up. Dave wants Texelc members to be content with WLIB/DIA timeline of 2 houses a year in regards to housing our young families.
- 08/11/00 -Community acknowledged Texelc Hereditary Chief Jake Thomas attends the Shuswap Nation Forestry Task Force meeting in the DIA established Indian Act Shuswap reserve of the Soda Creek Indian Band. Jake is introduced to the group to verify to the SNTC affiliated individuals at the meeting that the Texelc harvesters do in fact have his written authorization to selectively extract fibre in his area of Secwepemc territory. The SNTC affiliated individuals at the meeting are also requested not to issue any more slanderous press releases (03/08/00) from their respective entities.
- 03/28/01 -After another year of "frustration", homelessness and public denial of inherent rights continues, Secwepemc Nation members are forced to resume selective harvesting of fibre resources well within said traditional territories. The number of active sights has now climbed to four (4). After finding 2 of these sites, MOF and RCMP still refuse to lay charges.
- 05/09/01 -AFN's Confederacy of Nations holds it's quarterly meeting at the Squamish Rec. Center in North Vancouver. 400 copies of JUNE 13, 2K1 "DRAFT" Texelc Selective Fibre Harvesting Press Release are delivered to this meeting.
- 06/13/01 -500 BLUE copies of updated Texelc harvesting situation/position hand delivered to First Nations Summit quarterly "treaty" meeting at the Squamish Rec. Center. Texelc Hereditary Chief still authorizes in writing, continued selective harvesting of fibre resources well within said traditional territory by his designated harvesters. - END