



**Haida Gwaii Management Council
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
July 18-20, 2017
Old Massett Village Council Chambers
Old Massett, Haida Gwaii**

In attendance (for all or part of the meeting):

Council:

Percy Crosby	Member—CHN
Sharon Hadway	Member—BC
Tyler Bellis	Member—CHN
Brian Bawtinheimer	Member—BC
Warren Mitchell	HGMC—Chair

Council Support:

Laurie Whitehead	HGMCIC-CHN
Veronica Cadden	HGMCIC—BC

Staff: Nick Reynolds, Christine Fletcher, John Sunde, David Stuart, Robert Russ, Simon Davies, Tanisha Salomon, Jessica Ruskin

Guests: Al Mackie, Colin Richardson, Don Cadden

Day 1- July 18, 2017

1. Administrative Topics

a. Review and adoption of Agenda

Decision: Agenda approved with edits (day 3 field trip confirmed for Pure Lake area and trip to Naikoon protected area).

b. Review and adoption of minutes from April 4-6, 2017:

Decision: Adoption of Minutes from April 4-6, 2017 with edits. (change in 1.b - the FLNRO engineer for the Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District office has a group in place to discuss road access issues). June interim meeting notes approved with edits.

c. Review list of Action Items:

Decision: Approved with edits and updates.

d. New Business and Correspondence:

- Draft Cedar Partition letter to Diane Nicholls (draft).
- Taan correspondence – Monitoring report - FYI
- Taan FSP open house – open houses this week. FYI
- Note from Reconciliation Table – regarding Streamlined Process for the Review of Applications.

e. Quarterly Budget:

Discussion: HGMC Budget tracking needs continued work to bring it up to date. Because the HGMC has no Administrative Assistant we are behind in the tracking of funds.

Decision: Approval of contract for TSR analysis.

f. Solutions Table Quarterly Report

Discussion: The Reconciliation Table is now aware and focussing on considering the non-consensus issue at the Solutions Table. The HGMC is currently working to address the cedar issue to alleviate non-consensus informed input on cedar harvesting in proposed cut blocks. There was also discussion about the streamlined process for the review of applications and responsibilities regarding potential amendments.

2. Land Use Objectives Order

a. LUOO Amendment Decision:

Discussion: The LUOO Amendment Package was reviewed for the HGMC by the LUOO Joint Technical Team (JTT). The package contains a decision note, the proposed legal order, a consolidated order for ease of reading, the various Schedules, the public review and stakeholder comments and how they were addressed, an impact assessment on the LUOO amendment and an assessment of the amendments under the Land Use Objectives Regulation.

Discussion section: Though no written submissions were received from licensees on the LUOO Amendment package, it was noted that some bigger picture licensee issues were not addressed as additional information would be needed; HGMC provided a rationale for not addressing those concerns in this amendment in the form of a letter.

The policy directive to ongoing changes to forest reserves was also discussed. There are provisions for changes to forest reserves but to date there isn't an administrative process for changes to the line-work. The JTT is working on a policy directive to both governments. Finally, there was an overview of some final edits identified by the JTT since public review.

Decision: Final HGMC approval decision pending until forest reserve consultation with licensees, which should be completed by August 11, 2017.

b. Background and Intent Document:

Discussion: Revisions to the Background and Intent document is still underway and not ready for HGMC review and approval. The licensees do not immediately need the document.

c. LUOO Amendment Schedule:

The HGMC would like to develop a schedule to address proposed amendments that come to the council throughout the year. A review of the LUOO every 2 years or after 4 years with one year to make any consequential amendments was contemplated. It is understood that suggestions and proposals from licensees and the Solutions Table will come in over time.

3. Timber Supply Review Update

- **TSR Updates:** The HGMC reviewed the proposed spatial timber supply modelling contract for Gowlland Technologies Ltd and are ready to go ahead with the contract. The HGMC also reviewed the draft document entitled 'Socioeconomic assessment for the Haida Gwaii Timber Supply Review' and made some suggested edits. Once this is done, the TWG can go to the consultants with a Request for Proposal to do the assessment. The TWG provided an update regarding data requirements -assembling the available data is advancing and is going well. They are still awaiting the final boundary of the community forest agreement and preparing other information necessary for the model. Finally, the HGMC would like to continue with the interim meetings with the TSR TWG to gain understanding of the various assessments and models required for the HG TSR.
- **Update on partitioning discussion with Chief Forester (June 16, 2017):** the Chair has drafted a formal request letter to consider recommending a formal partitioning for cedar, and has received some proposed edits from HGMC and JTT members.

4. Communications (Simon Davies, Tanisha Salomon)

Package of information handout; introducing Tanisha

Discussion: The CHN communications department introduced Tanisha Salomon, hired to work with the HGMC and the Reconciliation Table on communications for a one-year term. The HGMC wants to make the work of the HGMC accessible to the community. An overall communication strategy was discussed, and a process for working together. Key deliverables include a bi-annual newsletter, potential inter-newsletter bulletins for one-off stories like public reviews, and a redesign of the HGMC website to make it more interactive and informative. A budget was also proposed for the work to be undertaken. The HGMC agreed that it is important to remember that the HGMC communications need to be collaborative and related to HGMC business. The communications should provide a greater understanding of what HGMC does, but also create a sense of confidence that 'stuff is getting done'.

Decision: HGMC approves a budget of \$30,000 for wages and expenses, as a portion of the overall position.

5. Heritage Policy Update

Discussion: An update to the Heritage Policy (the Policy) drafting progress was provided. The HGMC has been working on developing heritage policies for a few years now. The intent is for it to be approved by both the CHN House of Assembly and the Province as an Order in Council. The draft document is now being revised to create a document that can be taken to the Parties for review. Questions arising from the work, which need resolution include a review of other legal statutes that may correspond or conflict with the Policy, an inclusion of historical heritage resources in addition to pre-1846 heritage resources, levels of protections, identification standards, the necessity of a schedule for sites, conservation standards, a consideration of management direction within the Policy, and a consolidation of protections on Haida Gwaii (under HCA, LUOO, and protected areas). The working group hopes to be able to address these questions by presenting options to the HGMC in the form of briefings to the HGMC.

6. Protected Areas Update (Don Cadden, Colin Richardson, Robert Russ)

- a. Kamdis / Marine Planning coordination (Don): When the Haida Gwaii Marine Plan was concluded, it included a commitment to update the protected area management plans to include the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) zoning language for the 9 Conservancies with marine foreshore. As a pilot, the CHN Haida Oceans Technical Team (HOTT) staff worked on analysing and revising the Kamdis Conservancy management plan. The Kamdis draft plan is expected to be completed by December 2017. Currently the documents are under review by CHN reps (Colin, Robert and Laurie) and BC Parks. Once that is done it can be incorporated into the HGMC process for approval.
- b. Update on Canada Target 1 and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (Brian): Canada has adopted the commitment to create protection over 17% of terrestrial areas and 10 % of marine areas. Canada is developing a delivery model for this commitment. They have created a national steering committee with supporting technical committees. Part of the mandate is to consider indigenous protected and conserved areas to reach these targets. Canada has set up an indigenous circle of excellence (to which Brian has been invited) to consider options and

opportunities for protection and to make recommendations back to Canada. The body operates under principles that include mutual respect around overlapping jurisdictions and respecting capacity issues. Brian would like to use the protected area models on Haida Gwaii as an example as a case study.

- c. Solutions Table non-consensus reports: Non-consensus informed input to decision makers from the Solutions Table has two sources. The first results from a letter Peter Lantin sent to BC in 2013 stating that until CHN and BC have developed the higher-level plan regarding decision-making in protected areas, CHN will not be supportive of issuing PUPs. Over time, research, community infrastructure and public safety were exempted from the directive. To date, most of the applications that have come across the provincial decision maker's desk have been approved by BC. However, some lodge applications have been approved with a short-term turn around and conditions and some have not been issued or approved yet because the Solutions Table has indicated that the activity does not comply with the marine plan. For the latter, the provincial decision maker is awaiting a response from the Solutions Table explaining how it conflicts with the marine plan.
- d. Update on the interim Strategic Protected Area Working Group (SPAWG) and the Protected Area Operational Working Group (PAOWG) (Robert and Don):

In August of 2015 CHN and BC protected area staff who had been working together on annual protected areas management developed a set of recommendations in a report for the Reconciliation Table. The recommendations resulted in the formal establishment of the PAOWG with a draft Procedures Manual (which includes a Terms of Reference) to guide them. The PAOWG Recommendation report legitimized the collaborative work that was already being done. Current PAOWG members are Robert Russ, Owen Jones, Andy MacDonald and Lucy Stefanyk. Colin Richardson and Don Cadden have a higher-level role and oversee the work of the PAOWG. The work to date includes developing upgrades to the Pesuta Trail and signage – both Haida and historic – in Haida language, plant signage and public information signs like ones at Agate Beach with a Haida name for Agate Beach. The PAOWG is also developing trail markers; and researching universal access improvements to the Dover Trail. Planning for the next fiscal year will begin soon. The SPAWG has been convened to consider decision making structures and options in protected areas. The interim SPAWG was developed to discuss the vision – a frank conversation with no limitations, but with no obligation to settle on any particular process. The current members are Trevor Russ, Colin Richardson, Robert Russ, Laurie Whitehead, Don Cadden, Bob Austad (EDPO) and Karen MacDowell. This is an interim working group convened to address a narrow set of objectives – the key one is to develop recommendations to the Reconciliation Table regarding decision making in protected areas. The timeline target for the recommendations is the fall of 2017.
- e. Management Plan approval process: The HGMC need to have an approval process to guide them in regard to new and/or updated protected area management plans. This is important as the plans will become statutory documents once approved by the HGMC. CHN and BC staff will consider the best way to develop this approval process which must be transparent and involve the public. Once the Kamdis management plan is ready to move from the initial drafting stage, the HGMC may use it as a pilot for a new approval process. Additionally, the HGMC would like to develop priority planning and a review and monitoring process for all protected area management plans.

7. Wrap up and Next Meeting

Appointments: The HGMC discussed member and chair appointment terms. Some of the appointment terms are coming up for review in the next 9 months. The HGMC feels the maintenance of stability and continuity of appointment terms is crucial to the AAC determination. Each appointee and the reconciliation table needs to assess each appointment individually.

Fall meeting: Nov 7-8, 2017, District Office, Queen Charlotte City. 9:00 am. Start.

Spring meeting: February 6-8 2018, Skidegate. Meeting of the Parties will be included.

Day 3- July 20, 2017

Morning Field Trip: BCTS Blocks NAI 504 and 504-2.

Topics for this field trip include logging waste management, yew tree monitoring and protection, cedar partitioning and non-consensus at the Solutions Table for cutting permits in high cedar blocks, and community concerns around remaining timber for the future community forest. How the market drives the choices for harvesting was discussed, as were targets for cedar and yew protection. All HGMC members and BCTS staff present agreed that communication out to the communities is of great importance. HGMC is actively working to improve communication as is BCTS.

Afternoon Field Trip: Naikoon Park north beach area east of Hiellen River.

Topics for this afternoon session include ones relevant to management plan updates: driving on the beach and the associated challenges and opportunities, alternative or additional means of access, tourism opportunities such as cabin building and formal camping pads, access to private land within the protected area, visitor education, potential registration to address visitor capacity concerns, and guardian responsibilities. Additionally, the importance of respecting and representing the laws and rights of the two governments in the management plan was discussed.