



**Temkwikwexyel**  
"Time for baby sockeye  
salmon"

# Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association UPDATE

Áthelets - Leq'á:mél - Popqkw'em - Sq'ewá:lxw - Sq'ewqéyl - Ch'iyáqtel - Yeqwyeqwi:ws

"S'ólh témexw te íkw'elò. Xólhmet te mekw'stām ít kwelāt."  
"This is our land. We have to take care of everything that belongs to us."

## Treaty Update

### SXTA Workshop Feb-Mar 2016

#### Treaty Myths

##### We will lose our status!

- No, we will not lose our status.
- Under the Indian Act you will maintain your status with the same access to INAC programs and services, the status quo is maintained as a default.
- Under treaty we are aiming for a much higher standard.

##### We will lose our aboriginal rights!

- No, the treaty does not extinguish aboriginal rights.
- The treaty clarifies aboriginal rights that are now only generally recognized but not defined in Section 35.
- Our rights will be defined in the treaty and constitutionally protected.

On February 29th and March 1st the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) met again to discuss what our government is going to look like after treaty.

The fact that post-treaty we will be unified as treaty citizens so we should be governed under one national body was discussed. The national body would include administrative, advisory and ombudsperson components.

This is the proposed system and still subject to input from the community members and discussion by the chiefs and the negotiating team.

#### National Table

- The Indian Act "Council" system will be gone.
- The national body could consist of 5 people. These Si:yám will be Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw treaty citizens from anywhere within S'ólh Téméxw. We could have the National Chief or president and 4 other Si:yám.
- These will be paid positions so the leadership can focus on working for our people.
- The process of determining the 5-

person membership of our national government body was discussed—should the five be elected or selected keeping in mind there will be no sectoral divide amongst the tribes?

- Terms of the national body were also discussed—the chief or president would serve a longer term than the other four. The other 4 Si:yám would serve 4-year terms.
- We would trim down the present costs of leadership by moving from about 29 leaders to 5.

#### Administrative

- A national CEO would be responsible for service delivery to all Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw (SX) citizens.
- The CEO will be responsible for which services are delivered and how.
- To better serve our

*Continued on page 2*



## Treaty Update from page 1

citizens our administrative offices would be geographically placed throughout the territory.

- Under the direction of the national CEO we will have general managers in these satellite offices managing service delivery. This will ensure better access to services as well as equal service delivery for all of our SX citizens.

### Advisory Committee

- The advisory committee could be made up of chiefs, hereditary chiefs, grand chiefs, elders, youth, family reps, experts in specific fields, etc.
- It was discussed that we need to have an oversight type of committee to keep the national governing body in line while delivering and maintaining the standard of excellence in leadership to the people.
- This advisory committee could also provide advice and in-put to the national governing body on an as needed basis.



- The advisory committee could prepare an annual review of the national governing body.

### Ombudsperson Office

- This is separate from the Advisory Committee and would handle our public and internal government dispute resolution process.
- The ombudsperson would deal with complaints and conflicts within our national and administrative bodies.
- The term “ombudsperson” needs to be replaced with a Halq’eméylem word.

Please note that these government system suggestions have not been formally adopted by the SXTA.

Much more discussion and input from our SXTA and our community members is needed because there are so many different components to consider when creating our own government and service delivery systems.

*Submitted by Brandee Hall,  
Outreach Worker*

## Quotes from the workshop!

*“I have a comment on the advisory board, be the eyes and ears of the national board, the members need to be deeply rooted in the community, someone the community knows.”*

**Terry Horne, Councilor  
Yakweakwioose**

*“We do not lose our status cards. Your children will still be able to register to be a status Indian, that’s the only thing under the Indian Act that still remains.”*

**Grand Chief Joe Hall  
SXTA Political Advisor**

*“I believe that we need to have community sessions so band members know how government will be done, the chiefs and councils need to understand that first, before the sessions with the community members.”*

**Leona Sam, Councilor  
Aitchelitz**

*“You will have 10,000% more jurisdiction than you have right now under the Indian Act.”*

**Jean Teillet  
SXTA Chief Negotiator**



*“70% of the people do not realize how the Indian Act is oppressing their lives.”*

**Grand Chief Joe Hall  
SXTA Political Advisor**

# FUTURE FOCUS

# Youth Page

## Youth Page

### Mini Series: Treaty Refreshers 3 of 3

SPRING

### The Benefits of Treaty

*How will treaty change the way we live today?*

With treaty, we will be getting out from under the Indian Act allowing us to run our own government; come to an agreement on what Stó:lō aboriginal rights and title are; and provide a better quality of life for current and future generations.

*What opportunity does treaty bring?*

Treaty is an opportunity for members to reconnect with Stó:lō history and culture.

*The treaty we negotiate must provide what necessary "ingredients"?*

Treaty will provide authority, funding, and lands.

*The necessary "ingredients" of authority, funding and lands will allow the SXTA to do what?*

Rebuild and maintain viable and strong communities governed according to Stó:lō principles.

*Should people expect to see results of a treaty right away?*

No.

*When are the measurable changes expected?*

After 1 year, after 5 years, after 10 years; building up to a long term implementation process.

*People should be encouraged to see treaty as?*

Something that will affect future generations for the better, with some immediate effects that should benefit everyone in terms of their rights, privileges and freedoms as Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Nation citizens.

*What should SXTA members do to participate in treaty making?*

Learn about their rights and responsibilities in treaty negotiations

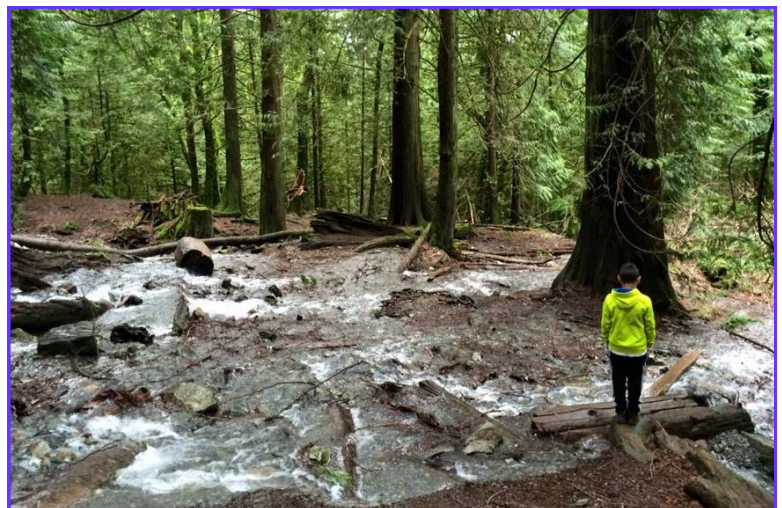
Be active in treaty negotiations

Help the members of the SXTA Treaty Negotiating Team chart the path for our treaty.

**Our treaty will be most beneficial to whom?**

**Our children, our grandchildren, and future generations.**

*Submitted by  
Emily Kelly, Outreach*



*Photo by Brandee Hall*





**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw  
Treaty Association**

**SXTA Outreach Team**

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## Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) Reps:

**Aitchelitz First Nation**— Chief Angie Bailey / Councilor Leona Sam

**Skowkale First Nation**—Councilor Jeff Point / Chief Willy Hall

**Tzeachten First Nation**—Councilor Lawrence Roberts / Chief Glenda Campbell

**Popkum First Nation**—Councilor Cynthia Murphy / Chief James Murphy

**Yakweakwioose First Nation**—Grand Chief Frank Malloway / Councilor Terry Horne

**Skawahlook First Nation**—Chief Maureen Chapman / Councilor Deb Schneider

**Leq'á:mél First Nation**—Councilor Sandy McDonald / Chief Alice Thompson

**ATTENTION MEMBERS OF:**  
Skawahlook; Leq'á:mél;  
Yakweakwioose; Popkum; Skowkale;  
Tzeachten; Aitchelitz.  
Note: Ages 16 yrs+

**YOU ARE INVITED** to join us on the new "Chilliwack River Valley" SXTA Tour sponsored by the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Outreach Program.

Dress appropriately (layers) and wear comfortable shoes suitable for mild hiking. Don't forget your camera, binoculars, & umbrella!

This full day tour begins at 8:00 a.m. in front of Stó:lō Nation Building #7 at Kwikw'alith'a (Coqualeetza) located in Sardis at 7201 Vedder Road.

The tour starts from Kwikw'alith'a and we will go throughout Chilliwack following the Chilliwack River and its creeks and sloughs.

A brief stop at Tamihi Creek. We will then stop for a scenic hike and a picnic lunch at Chilliwack Lake.

On the way back we make a couple of stops: first a short hike to the Chipmunk Caves near Ford Mountain Correctional Centre and then to Allison Pools.

Then back to Kwikw'alith'a (Coqualeetza) around 4:00 pm.

NOTE: Itinerary subject to changes.

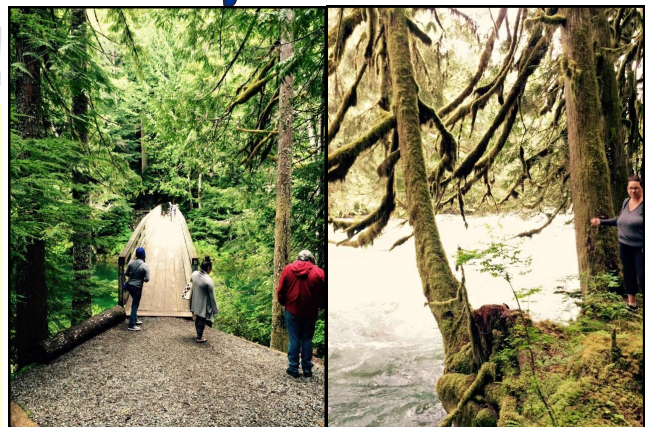
# The Chilliwack River Valley Place Names Tour

**May 7, 2016!**

**Albert (Sonny) McHalsie**  
*Naxaxalhts'i*

Cultural  
Advisor for the Stó:lō  
Xwexwilmexw Treaty Assn.

**Narrator for  
SXTA sponsored Tours**



### The Narrated Tour

Enjoy this new tour of the Chilliwack River Valley departing from Kwikw'alith'a (Coqualeetza) destined for scenic Chilliwack Lake, B.C.

Listen and learn about the unique relationship between the Stó:lō, "the River People", their land and their environment through the narratives provided by Naxaxalhts'i, who has studied Halq'eméylem Place Names for over 21 years.

Listen and see first hand the special significance of Halq'eméylem place names from the recent award winning Stó:lō Nation publication titled A Stó:lō -Coast Salish Historical Atlas.

Learn about the three main dialects of Halkomelem and the many micro dialects of each, and the two main aspects of Stó:lō oral history including Sxwōxwiyám and Sqwelqwel, and learn about the unique relationship the Stó:lō maintain with their environment through their Shxwelí, or "spirit, life force".

Special stops of interests may include Sxótsaqel "sacred lake" or "something that's sacred" (Chilliwack Lake); a short hike to the Chipmunk Caves off Chipmunk Creek Forest Service Road; ly'oythel "always a mouth" or "good mouth", Allison Pools recreation site, where pithouses were located; and we hear about many other Halq'eméylem Place Names.

**YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER** (for catering purposes and LIMITED SEATING)

**To pre-register for this Saturday, May 7th CRV Place Names Tour**

**Please call Emily: 604-824-5315 or e-mail her at:**

**Emily.Kelly@stolonation.bc.ca**