

Report to Squamish Nation Elders  
May 14, 2008  
Elder's Gathering Place

Dear Elders,

It has been busy trying to adjust to my job, and all that it requires. I appreciate all that responded with the "Questionnaire/Survey" in January 2008.

We had our first meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup> here at the Centre. I went through the responses with those that attended the meeting. I am attaching a copy for those that weren't able to attend.

**The following list is what was considered a priority and a status report:**

1. A copy of the New Fiscal Year Budget: *Copies of the Budget for 2008/09 were requested on April 10<sup>th</sup>, via email to Les Harry and Audrey Larson. I am confirmed to meet with Les on Thurs. May 15<sup>th</sup>, as I have had no response yet.*
2. A copy of the Elder's Phone Numbers and Addresses: *I have not had time to sit and meet with Monica, but was informed by the former coordinator that the issue is a privacy one.*
3. It is important for the Elder's to reciprocate the luncheons that were attended at Lummi, Nooksack, Tulalip and Suquamish Tribes in the United States. *I still don't know what the budget is, and can't plan for anything this size.*
4. Programming attendance – *Transportation is a big issue for programming.*
5. Get Price Quotes for the Elder's Gathering in Prince Rupert. *I have summarized all the gathered information on one sheet.*

**Facility Programming:**

**My mandate is to provide programming for people 55 and over.**

Currently the Center is open for use on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the week. I use Monday and Friday to go shopping and do errands.

- Monday's is computer lessons with Trevor Schofield at Esliha7an Learning Center.
- Tuesday's is slated as scrapbooking, but I have elder's come in and do what they want.

- Wednesday's is social gathering and lunch day. I have a therapist come in for massage therapy, reiki and relaxation massage on alternate Wednesdays.
- Thursday's is weaving. I have had two elder's complete their first headbands. I'm looking at having Chief Janice George come in to do a "Shawl" workshop.

The doors of the centre are open, for any and all elders, to use at their leisure. Although there are events posted on the calendar – if an Elder wishes to drop by for a cup of tea and to socialize – please do so. I purposely don't put a time to the scheduled events – unless I have a facilitator scheduled to come in – so there is no pressure.

I would like to start scheduling in the following on a monthly basis:

1. A Field trip – First Friday of the month.
2. A Matinee Movie Trip – Schedule & advise at Wed. Lunches
3. A Potluck Dinner night – Third Thursday of the month.

I would also like to know how many people would be interested in:

1. Seattle Mariners Baseball Game
2. Vancouver Canadian's Baseball Game
3. Seattle Seahawk's Game

### **Revenue:**

When I started in this position I had been approached by programs to utilize the facility.

I set up a "booking revenue" ledger for incoming funds and the corresponding ledger is "Elder's outings". To date the Incoming revenue totals \$2,385.00. The following is a list of the main contributors – The Land Codes Membership Committee who are meeting on bi-weekly basis; the Child and Family Services – Weaving Program – who are in the facility on Wednesday evenings.

### **Richard Band Trust Fund:**

I personally, did not know anything about the Trust fund and the purpose for the fund, so I have asked Linda Calla to come and do a presentation. I am attaching a copy of the presentation.

### **Other business:**

Since I started my job, the following individuals - families – departments have made the following donations to the Elder's Facility.

1. Child & Family Services Department – Donated the massage table in the side room.
2. Tony Moody and Family – Donated beads, wool, and crafting supplies.
3. June Baker – Paperback books for the Library at the Elder's Center.
4. Glen Newman – Donated a box of beads.
5. Vivian Stogan – Donated wool.

I want to spend a good week getting everything sorted out in the Craft supply room, so that everything is organized and accessible to the Elders.

### **Diabetic Prevention Program:**

In discussions with Linda George, Manager of Community Prevention and Awareness Program – I applied for funds and received a grant of \$5,000.00 to deal with Diabetes prevention.

The funds from this program have been designated to producing a calendar, planting a community garden, and community canning kitchen.

### **New Business:**

Due to the high cost of travelling to the Elders Conference in Prince Rupert, the Elders that are on the list to travel are being asked to participate in Fund raising events. (To be determined – asap)

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

Wednesday, May 21, 2008 – Pam Baker has requested time to do a presentation on the Elder's Care Facility. I have confirmed for 1:15 pm. She will be in to do the presentation with a tech crew.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (604) 987-4646.

Respectfully submitted:

Marcie Baker  
Elder's Facility Coordinator

## ELDER'S FACILITY SURVEY REPORT

Total Surveys submitted: 26

Question No. 1

### **Do you use the Facility?**

Yes: 12

No: 14

Question No. 2

### **If no, what's preventing you from coming to the facility?**

- The commute (X2)
- Not on the mailing list
- Lack of info & Inability to get around
- Work (X3)
- Health Issues
- No Transportation
- Receiving Notices by Mail – LATE
- Busy

Question No. 3

### **How can we best utilize the Center?**

- Better Accessibility ie: Transportation
- Need Programming for Men
- More Activities
- More Arts & Crafts (X2)
- Have a "Drop-In" day for coffee-games-TV (socializing) (X6)
- Family Gatherings
- Establishing programs that the elders want. Work them into the monthly calendar, if a program fails – move to the next option.
- Establish the programs – then prioritize
- Do the best to make us feel comfy
- More people to use it – Especially from North Van.
- Introducing more programs (X4)
- Open the facility to all Elders – Men & Ladies
- More relevant programs – especially to do with the culture.
- Small bingo night, Potluck lunches, sewing days
- Being respectful to all Elders
- Stop by to have a cup of tea & socialize.

Question No. 4

### **What would you like to have planned in the way of Field Trips/ Shopping Trips / Sporting Events?**

Day Trips for Men & Women on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month

**Field Trip suggestions:**

Garden tour – Whale Watching – Museums (UBC MOA & Victoria) La Conner, Skagit Valley – Tulip Field tour – Harrison Hot Springs - Whistler for Lunch – Planetarium – Steveston - White Rock – Casinos – Trips to other First Nation Elder's Lunches – Grouse Mountain - Vancouver Aquarium – Native Events ie Talking Stick

**Shopping Trip Suggestions:**

Bellis Fair Mall - USA – Outlet Malls - Coquitlam Mall - Guildford Mall – Semiahmoo - Metro-town

**Sporting Even Suggestions:**

Hockey (Canucks & Giants) – Baseball (in Seattle) – Football (in Seattle) – Lacrosse – Watch the 2010 Snow Boarding Team Practice – Golfing – Soccer games

**Other Suggestions:**

Afternoon Movies – Restaurant Lunch Outings – Social Breakfasts

Question No. 5

**Do you like to do Crafts? (Please circle those that apply)**

Knit (4) Crochet (4) Bead (3) Scrapbooking (7) Sew (4) Silk Screening (3) Quilt (5)  
Weave: Cedar (11) Wool (6)

**What crafts would you like to see added to this list:**

Carving (2) Rug Hooking (3) Oil & Acrylic Painting (3) Restoring Furniture (1) Make paddles for Regalia (1) Stometh: Spinners, Trailers (dusters) More Scrapbooking workshops (1) Beginner's Silvercarving (1) Drummaking (1)

Would like to learn Ceremonial & traditional songs.

Question No. 6

**Do you like to play cards / board games?**

Yes (13) Cribbage – Texas Holdum – Rumoli – Yahtzee – Poker - Monopoly  
No (5) Sometimes (1)  
(3) Can we add Prize Bingo? (1) Can we learn Texas Holdum?

Question No. 7

**Would you like to watch movies?**

Drama (12) Action (5) Funny (12) History (7) True (5) Period Movies (1)  
Educational (1) Native Movies (1) No Response (6) Theater Outings (5)

Question No. 8

**What day would you like the Elder's Luncheon to be?**

Wednesday (21)

Suggestion: change the lunches on crafts day to Tuesdays (2) with an invitation to our spouses and those that do not do any crafts and have scrapbooking on Thursdays. Friday (1) Any day but Tuesday (1)

Question No. 9

**Do you have any food allergies or special diet considerations?**

Yes (4) Diabetic (3) Healthy Heart (1) Cholesterol ( )

No (12)

The food should be prepared according to those three considerations. (1)

Low fat (1) Low Sodium (1) Not fried (3) Not Greasy (1) or too spicy (3)

No response (2)

Question No. 10

**Would you be interested in doing evening Potluck Dinners?**

Yes (18) No (8)

Question No. 11

**Suggestions for programming:**

- Travel & transportation is a concern with scheduled pick-ups (2)
- Positive Attitude workshop (1)
- Phone calls & notifications need to be more consistent (1)
- Read Historical documents & Band/Council meeting minutes (1)
- Sewing days (1)
- Alcohol & Drug support meetings
- Fundraising
- Gardening Club
- Walking Group
- Re-learning our language
- Community Kitchen
- Health Fairs 3 times per year Feb is Heart moth, Diabetes workshops and Arthritis/Osteo workshops
- Ask if anyone would like to do Senior Aquacise
- Once a month Luncheon meetings on the second last Friday of each month.
- Birthday lunches should be once a month.
- We should not be hiring people to show us crafts – we have enough talent within the Nation.
- The massages should be coming through the Wellness Center
- Welfare day needs to be addressed.

Good Afternoon Elders,

In recent months both Tom Butler and I have been approached by many Elders about the Laura (Pat) Band and Richard Band Trust. It appears many of you are not happy with the way the Trust funds are being used. I would like to read a quote from our Aunt Pat's eulogy.

*Her life has been one of freely giving help whenever and wherever needed. This was seen in her work as Treasurer of the Squamish Nation Capilano Club. Without her fundraising efforts, the first modern Squamish Longhouse might never have been build. Her contribution to the Squamish Nation can also be seen in the work she did as Secretary Treasurer of the Elders Council. Again she assumed the responsibility of coordinating fundraising as well as related social and cultural activities.*

*Clearly a Woman of Principal, for example, not too long ago she threatened to resign as Treasurer when the Elders Council considered accepting a large donation from a questionable source. The Elders accepted her view of the situation and she continued with her fundraising efforts. The Elders Council could have sought full funding from the Nation. Her ethical standards were abundantly clear.*

*She said "Too often we look for easy solutions. The Elders should set an example to our Youth, that you should work for what you want. A principal so often forgotten and so easily overlooked in today's society."*

A few months after Aunt Pat passed away my cousin Richard telephoned me and asked me to be a co-executor of his last will and testament with Tom Butler. He explained he trusted my judgement because of my years in business and finance. Richard told me of his intention to leave his estate to the Elders of the Squamish Nation in loving memory of his Mother.

From Richard's will:

***The balance of my Estate is to be utilized to establish the Laura (Pat) Band and Richard W. Band Trust Fund with the Bank of Montreal. The annual earnings of the Fund are to be allocated to the Squamish Nation Elders Council and expended as the Council sees fit, except for one provision.***

***Twenty five percent (25%) of the annual allocation is to be awarded to the Elder who has contributed the most to Elders activities, the Award is to be entitled "The Laura (Pat) Band Volunteer with Principals Award" and the selection of the recipient is to be made by the Elders Council and awarded every Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>.***

***The Trust Fund is to exist in perpetuity and administered in a manner that honours the basic intent of the Fund.***

Tom Butler and I have discussed the current situation of the Trust and would like to make the following recommendations.

1. The Elders will select a Volunteer with Principals recipient annually. The process will be by nomination and election at a Squamish Nations Elders General Meeting or Assembly on or before Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>. The funds will be presented to the recipient after the Estate Tax return has been filed and confirmed by the Canada Revenue Agency.

2. The remaining funds will be administered by an elected group of Squamish Nation Elders and shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. The election process will be by nomination and election at a Squamish Nation Elders General Meeting or Assembly annually on or before Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

These are volunteer positions, the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer or any other individual appointed to a Committee related the administration of the Trust funds shall not be compensated for time, travel and work. All the day to day administration will be conducted at the Elders Gathering Place in North Vancouver or The Elders Lounge in Squamish with the understanding that the Squamish Nations Recreation Department will not charge the Trust for the use of these facilities or equipment.

3. An annual financial report shall be presented to the Squamish Nations Elders at a General Meeting or Assembly by April 1<sup>st</sup> and copied to the Trustees Tom Butler and Linda Calla no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> every year.

We believe these recommendations will satisfy the last will and testament of the Late Richard Band based on the life principals of his Late Mother Laura (Pat) Band.

Thank you for your time.  
Linda Calla,  
Co-Executor of the Estate.